

OSWESTRY & BORDER CHRONICLE

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60P WHERE SOLD

GAS PROTESTERS' BATTLE WARNING

Report by Sue Austin

CAMPAIGNERS who won their year-long battle to halt a bid to drill for gas near St Martins have warned that residents have to be ready for further similar battles in the future.

The campaign to prevent coal bed methane drilling was finally won last week after energy bosses confirmed they were no longer interested in the site.

IGas Energy, which acquired applicant Dart Energy last year, says it is not progressing with its scheme to site a test drill pad at Brooklands Farm at Dudleston Heath.

But Oswestry Town Councillor Duncan Kerr, a member of the Green Party, warned: "This is not the last we will hear from these companies I am sure. Oswestry sits on a coalbed. There will be those who want to drill for the gas underneath our feet."

Councillor Kerr, who helped organise public meetings and protests in Oswestry over the drilling plans, said it was time for radical action.

He said: "We are not going to sit back now."

"We want to build on this success and press for a moratorium on fracking and drilling for coal bed methane. It is not legally binding but if Shropshire announced that it would not allow drilling, it would put the message out there that the county was not interested."

"Energy companies would know that they had a fight on their hands if they wanted to drill here. The Dudleston application woke a lot of people up."

"Very few knew what fracking or coal bed methane extraction was and they had their eyes opened. Now we need to build on that to ensure that we can fight any future applications."

Shropshire Councillor for St Martins Steve Davenport said the Dudleston Heath campaign had set the benchmark for dealing with alternative gas applications in Shropshire.

He said: "No-one knew about this type of drilling before and we had to work hard to ensure that it did not go ahead."

"When other applications come in for Shropshire, as I fear they will, we have to ensure that permission is not given for greenfield sites."

"This has been a steep learning curve for the community and for councillors but we have been successful."

The final decision on whether or not to grant permission was due to lie with a government planning inspector following a planning inquiry, but this is no longer going to go ahead.

Gordon Grant, IGas Energy spokesman, said: "Following the completion of the acquisition of Dart Energy late last year, IGas Energy has been undertaking a comprehensive review of all Dart licences."

"As a result of this review, IGas has concluded that the licence area, PEDL 185, does not meet its criteria for commercial coal bed methane development."

Annual show proves a huge money-spinner



Holly Keeble, Cerys Evans and Lynda Jones from Llynclys Hall Farm Shop celebrate their success at this year's Oswestry Show

THOUSANDS of people packed into Oswestry Show at the weekend – bringing a huge cash boost to the record numbers of trade stands and food stalls at the event.

Organisers said they were delighted with the success of the show which produced record gate receipts while business bosses said the annual event served as a valuable shop window for future trade.

Oswestry Mayor Peter Cherrington said he had never seen so many people attend the show, describing the crowds as "brilliant".

He praised the businesses who bought up every inch of trade stand space.

Councillor Cherrington said: "Everyone that I have talked to has said that business is beginning to look up and I think that the success of the show mirrors the upturn that the economy is beginning to enjoy again. It is great news for Oswestry."

WE MEAN BUSINESS

Shropshire Council Leader Keith Barrow said the show was hugely important for Oswestry. He said: "It shows people just what Oswestry has got to offer, from the agriculture to its businesses."

Leading Oswestry businessman Tudor Griffiths said it was important for local businesses to be at the event.

He said: "We do find that the show is a shop window for traders. People will see us at our two stands and then come and visit us when they want to buy."

His thoughts were echoed by staff at the colourful Llynclys Hall Farm shop stand. Lynda Jones said she was delighted with her first place prize for her section in the trade stands.

Another business boasting the show's success was Oswestry's Sue Casa Spanish food firm. Owner Tim Roberts had to send out for more ingredients after selling out in the early afternoon at Saturday's show. He said: "We brought more ingredients this year than in previous years and it is the first time we have sold out. Thankfully our butcher, Eric Roberts, was able to help with more meat and we soon had the paella cooking again."

• The Chronicle's We Mean Business campaign celebrates business success stories. Turn to Page 9 for our latest We Mean Business profile and turn to Page 18 for more on Oswestry Show.

EDUCATION

Fears over plan to raise children's school start age

PLANS to raise the school starting age in Mid Wales as part of cost-cutting measures would put an extra burden on struggling families, it is feared.

Powys County Council needs to reduce its spending by £27 million over the next three years.

Its deputy leader and cabinet member for finance, Councillor Wynne Jones, said he will look at raising the age pupils can start at school as part of cost-cutting measures.

But Councillor Peter Lewis, county councillor for Llanfyllin, said he believes it could put extra pressure on parents.

He said: "It will be concerning to parents because childcare can be very expensive."

"The age of starting school has been the same in Powys for many years and people expect their children to start at a certain time and can budget around that."

"I imagine if it were to come in it would be very concerning for them."

"It is only at an extremely early stage at the moment though, mentioned by Councillor Jones as something to just look at, so I wouldn't want to unduly concern people that this is happening."

Pupils currently start at schools in Powys a year earlier than those in Shropshire. In Powys a child starts schools on either a part-time or full-time basis at the beginning of the term in which their fourth birthday is reached.

ENTERTAINMENT

Eisteddfod pulls in large crowds

THOUSANDS of people have flocked to the National Eisteddfod at Meifod near Welshpool this week – with the opening weekend attracting more than 30,000 visitors alone.

Wales First Minister Carwyn Jones visited on Monday and said he was "delighted" to see the National Eisteddfod in Powys. An estimated 150,000 visitors were due to visit Powys during the eisteddfod week. The event closes on Saturday. The One Show presenter Alex Jones will attend tomorrow (Friday) to be honoured for promoting Welsh culture.

• Success – See Page 36

INSIDE

A sneak peak at knife angel



PAGE 5

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Bosses at an Oswestry firm have vowed to get back on track quickly after a devastating fire. See Page 8.

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Day of live music will help support town's social club

Report by Andrew Morris

A DAY of live music will be held to raise money for a closure-threatened social club.

The team behind Welshpool Music Festival will hold a Reloaded festival on Saturday in a bid to support the club in which it is based. More than a dozen live acts will perform at the social club on Saturday from 1pm until late.

Organiser Cathy Beech, organiser of WMF, which stages the annual Welshpool Music Festival, said she hopes the event will be a roaring success.

She said: "Since the WMF day held on May 24, the festival has built an official committee to give the event and its future projects more power and ability to help and support live musicians in the Welshpool area.

"The committee consists of Kuldip Caberwal, Alwyn Caberwal, Maddi Wesson Caberwal, Amanda Woodruffe, Hannah Smith, David Bailey, John Meldrum, Rob Dunsford, Carrie Ellis, David Bailey and myself.

"Every individual brings a skill set that will help promote any artiste that supports our events in Welshpool.

"The main purpose of any Reloaded Event is to raise funds for future projects and future events, but this event holds a double purpose.

"At present The Welshpool Social Club has given the WMF a home from which they can work from and in doing so has created a base where a lot of musical projects can take off supporting new and established acts locally.

"So with this in mind, when the committee found out the social club was under threat of closing, it was in our interests to help raise awareness of this great venue that the people of Welshpool can attend and see really excellent live entertainment.

"The Welshpool Social Club is an essential venue for live performers, hosting a great room for sound, with a stage that allows for a great show for Welshpool people.

"The WMF team are very excited about this event and have many artists performing such as Barrie Davies, The Bluesmiths, Sally Crosby and the John Hardman Band."

Entrance to the event is £3 for non-members and free to members.

For information visit: www.welshpoolmusicfest.com

Village is getting ready for its big show



Gulisfield Show presidents Sue and Phil Jones with their horse Pebbles

ONE of the top one-day shows in Mid Wales will attract hundreds of supporters to a village near Welshpool next week.

Gulisfield Show will provide a day of fun for the whole family at its custom-made venue, Fron Y Fele Field, Groeslydwyd, courtesy of owners Mr and Mrs JT Trevor.

The show on Thursday next week promises, as ever, to be a big attraction for equestrian lovers, with horse classes running from 9am and show jumping in the afternoon.

Show secretary Sally Jones said: "The marquee is always a highlight and will be open to the general public in the early af-

ternoon when judging is completed. Poultry, sheep and dog classes take place in the morning and the re-vamped pet show is at 2pm.

"Closing date for entries in most sections is Monday while the pet show, dogs and children's cookery and crafts is on the day."

The trade stand area provides an opportunity to buy and try local produce of all kinds. Children will be entertained by Non Stop Kids, a steam railway and fairground and there will be an opportunity for people to join in a variety of arena entertainment, the highlight of which promises to be an all-in tug o' war.

There will also be vintage machinery,

classic cars and a parade of the Tanatside Foxhounds. This year's presidents are Phil and Sue Jones, who in June hosted a hugely successful fundraiser for the show, a summer party at their home at Pant Farm, Maesmawr, near Gulisfield, for 220 guests, which raised more than £2,000.

Phil's grandparents were among the show's founders, his parents were heavily involved and he was wheeled there in his pram. Now 63, Phil has been enjoying the show from a young boy.

Both Phil and Sue are keen riders and Sue is a former secretary of the horses section. She will be competing in this year's show with her mount, Pebbles."

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Two birds shot in same town street

AN investigation has been launched after two birds were shot on different days in the same street.

A jackdaw and a pigeon were found with pellet injuries on Church Street in Oswestry in the last two weeks.

The RSPCA has urged any witnesses to come forward to help with their enquiries. Animal collection officer Kirsty Martuccio picked up the jackdaw on Thursday last week. He was taken to Cuan House Wildlife Rescue, in Much Wenlock, where a pellet was found under his wing. This was removed and the bird is currently being cared for at the centre until he is well enough to be released.

But two weeks ago another injured bird – a pigeon – was picked up just metres away on the same street by the RSPCA. The pigeon had also been shot with a pellet and is also currently being cared for in a wildlife centre.

Mrs Martuccio said: "The jackdaw looks like his wings are okay but he can't fly even though he is trying to. This is a tell tale sign that it is very likely that he has been shot.

"Such unnecessary and callous attacks can cause a lot of pain and distress to birds, and are often fatal.

"In this case it is extremely worrying that two birds have been attacked on different occasions, it seems very likely that the incidents may be linked and that other birds may fall victim to the same attacker."

Teen injured in attack by group

A TEENAGER suffered "significant" injuries which needed hospital treatment after being attacked by a group of men.

The 16-year-old boy was walking down Trefonen Road close to the Miners Arms in Morda when he was approached from behind by the group.

Terri-Anne Powell, spokeswoman for West Mercia Police, said: "We are keen to speak to a number of passers-by in the area, specifically a couple who stopped to help the victim following the incident."

"They were driving a silver 4x4-style car."

"At the time of the attack another pedestrian walked by as well as."

The attack happened on July 28 at about 9pm.

Anyone with information is asked to call police on 101 quoting incident number 750 of July 28.

Report by Sue Austin

LAMB sales plummeted at Welshpool livestock market on Monday as sheep farmers protested against rock bottom prices.

Just 3,000 lambs were put up for sale at Welshpool Livestock Sales, which would normally see twice the number at this time of year.

Farmers have launched a No Lamb Week campaign for this week in protest at the low prices they are being offered for their livestock. In parts of North Wales the campaign escalated as frustrated farmers loaded New Zealand lamb into trolleys in stores, including Tesco in Bangor, and left them at the till.

Sheep farmers are the latest in the agricultural industry to be hit by plummeting prices for their produce. Dairy farmers say they will not be able to cope much longer with the prices they get for their milk.

Malcolm Roberts, a sheep farmer from the Oswestry area, has blamed the strength of the pound making it cheaper to import lamb. He said: "The retailers have to realise that we cannot go on with poor lamb prices and high outgoings."

"We have to buy everything – medication, vet fees, fencing for the land, labour costs and diesel. There will come a time when many farmers say enough is enough."

Montgomeryshire MP Glyn Davies visited the market in Welshpool on Monday.

He said: "I called by the fat lamb pens and was told there were 3,000 animals there – half the usual number."

"There has been a catastrophically weak market. Perhaps it was short that lifted the price from the rock bottom it has been at." Mr Davies, who has farmed all his life, said ending New Zealand imports would not solve the problem.

He said: "The specific imported joints cannot be replaced by home grown product – at least to any great extent. I also know that the UK exports more lamb than we import. So it's not simple."

"Where I do agree is that supermarkets should be pressed to stock British product whenever possible."

Phil Stocker, the National Sheep Association's chief executive, said: "There is a huge amount of frustration out there at the moment, as many of the factors currently forcing the price down are outside the hands of producers."

Police were called when farmers targeted the Morrisons store in Oswestry, clearing its shelves of dairy products in a protest against poor milk prices.

About 50 mainly young farmers and their supporters, went into the supermarket at 8pm on Tuesday as part of a day-long protest across Shropshire.

They quickly removed all the milk, yoghurt and cheese from the dairy aisle. They then set about putting the milk in the water aisle at the supermarket to show that the 89p price for two litres of milk, was

Farmers stage milk protest at store



Sally Roberts from Oswestry and Bryony Webster from Ellesmere load dairy products into trolleys in Morrisons

cheaper than bottled water. Leaving the store when asked to do so by the police, they then held up banners and chanted "Morrisons, you've been milked" at the front of the shop.

Chris Roberts, 27, who works on his family farm in Maesbury, said: "It is our future that we are protesting for. It costs between 27p-30p to produce a litre of milk and we are being paid 22p for it."

Sally Roberts, 20, from Oswestry, who lives on her family farm, said: "Milk is now cheaper than water to buy in the shops. That can't be

right. We are here to support the dairy industry."

Shoppers looked bemused at the protest took place.

One of those who praised the farmers was shopper Zoe Calloway, 31, from Oswestry.

She said she bought about 12 litres of milk a week for her family of five.

"I would be prepared to pay up to £1.50 for my two litres bottle of milk," she said.

"The farmers work so hard and they are not getting what they deserve for what is such a good food."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Couple deny drug claims in court

A COUPLE both denied being involved in supplying cannabis from their home when they appeared before magistrates.

Jason Dean Wickham, 42, and Natalie Fay Wickham, 34, were said to be found in possession of a quantity of cannabis in October last year.

At Shrewsbury Magistrates Court on Tuesday the couple, of Albert Square in Weston Rhyn, near Oswestry, both pleaded not guilty to a charge of possessing cannabis with intent to supply.

Having heard that officers recovered drugs with an estimated street value of up to £13,000, mobile phones and £1,200 in cash, the magistrates declined jurisdiction of the case.

The two defendants were bailed to appear at Shrewsbury Crown Court on October 19.

Plans being drawn up for festival

A SPORTS event and outdoor cinema screenings could form part of a week-long festival in Oswestry.

Plans are being drawn up for the festival which would take place next summer.

Town Councillor Chris Stokes said he hopes to get many of the groups and societies from the town involved in the event.

During a meeting held to discuss the idea, suggestions for activities were made including a mini food and drink festival, five music, outdoor cinema screenings, walks and talks, arts and crafts, running and cycling races up to Old Oswestry Racecourse, a giant Ferris wheel, and a "Four Peaks Challenge".

Soccer match to boost charity

HOPE House Children's Hospice will benefit from a charity football game at The Venue at Park Hall, Oswestry, on Saturday.

The game will see FC Oswestry Town take on a team from the British Ironwork Centre. The kick-off is at 12.30pm. Admission will start from 12pm and will cost £1 per person to come and spectate. The British Ironwork Centre, based at Aston near Oswestry, has organised various fund-raisers for the hospice.

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Orthopaedic hospital now hitting treatment targets

Report by Sue Austin

OSWESTRY Orthopaedic Hospital has hit the national target for the number of patients waiting less than 18 weeks for treatment.

Additional clinics and more theatre sessions have been organised since the beginning of June when it was revealed that the hospital was not hitting the national 92 per cent target for patients going from referral to treatment in 18 weeks.

The extra work has also meant a financial boost for the specialist hospital, which saw a £400,000 surplus in June. The Oswestry hospital's trust board met last week to hear a number of reports in the wake of an inquiry by the watchdog organisation, Monitor, after targets were not met. Director of nursing Jayne Downey said all activity targets were now ahead of plan thanks to additional clinics and theatre sessions.

She said: "During June, 97.5 per cent of available theatre time was used and 39 surgical cases were carried out in the private sector to support the waiting list clearance plans." But she warned that the hospital must not become complacent.

She added: "Forward planning to maintain referral to treatment performance will be vital during the summer months as historically throughput is impacted by increased leave during the summer months."

Chief executive Wendy Farnington Chadd said: "We are pleased with our performance and overall we are in a good place. Our goal is to be the leading centre for high quality orthopaedic and related care, achieving 'excellent' in experience and outcome for our patients."

Consultant orthopaedic surgeon Steve Wright said his only worry about increased levels of activity was physical capacity, despite the new operation theatres under construction.

"Even with 10 theatres there comes a time when there is no more physical capacity. The hospital is particularly pushed with upper limb surgery," he said.

"There is of course the question of Sunday working, which is something that is being discussed nationally."

Meanwhile the hospital has been named one of the top 100 Best Places to Work in the NHS.

The list, compiled by the Health Service Journal and Nursing Times, in association with NHS employers, includes acute trusts, community trusts, clinical commissioning groups and mental health trusts across England.

The hospital was found to have high ratings, with 93 per cent of staff recommending the hospital to friends and family as somewhere to receive care and 71 per cent recommending it as a place to work.

Steps joy for brave Evie-Lou



Evie-Lou Harrington has taken steps unaided following an operation in America

A SEVEN-year-old who went to America for a life changing operation two years ago has taken her first two steps unaided.

Evie-Lou Harrington could barely move her feet forward, even with a special walking frame, before surgery and spent much of her time in a wheelchair.

A determined Evie-Lou from Llangynog has now stepped out alone to the delight of her mum, Donna.

The family raised more than £40,000 to send Evie-Lou to the US for elective dorsal rhizotomy surgery to help her mobility.

There were no guarantees that she would walk.

But regular specialist physiotherapy sessions with MP Fitness have seen her

strengthen her legs so much that earlier this year she was able to use her walking sticks to take part in a mile sponsored walk at Lake Vyrnwy.

The event was held to raise funds to send her older sister, Emilie for the same operation.

Emilie, who also has cerebral palsy, was not as disabled as Evie as a young child, but her mobility has degenerated to such an extent she now has to wear splints.

Mrs Harrington has launched the Emilie's Leap of Faith appeal to raise £60,000 for her operation.

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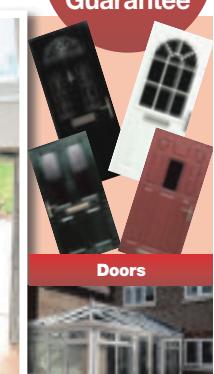
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Sneak peak of knife angel given by ironworks bosses

Report by Sue Austin

IT'S a first glimpse of the biggest sculpture to be attempted by an Oswestry company yet – the hands of the thought-provoking Knife Angel.

When finished, the sculpture will stand 25 feet high and will be the only one of its kind in Britain making a stand against violence and aggression.

The artwork is being built behind closed doors at the British Ironwork Centre at Aston near Oswestry.

Sculptor Alfie Bradley has spent many hundreds of hours creating the angel, from thousands of knives, collected in an amnesty run in partnership with police forces across the country.

Clive Knowles, chairman of the British Ironwork Centre, said the hands of the angel were outstretched as a symbol of questioning.

He said: "The angel's face will also be looking down at everyone, as if to say: 'What are you all doing, how did we get to this situation, with knife crime causing so many deaths and injuries?'

"Alfie is a very talented young man who, at the age of 24, is dedicating much of his life to creating a unique piece of art."

Mr Knowles said that the project already had 15 of the 43 police forces in Britain on board, donating confiscated knives and bladed weapons.

"To date we have collected 30,000 knives but we pledged to collect 100,000 and we will not unveil the statue until we have that number," he said.

The body of the angel is complete but there is still a lot of detailing on the hands and feet to finish before the sculptor moves to the angel's hair and its hair.

"We will then have to look at the wings, which will be made from the very long bladed swords and weapons," said Mr Knowles.

One of the latest police forces to get involved is North Wales Police.

Its chief constable is to visit the company's Aston headquarters during August.

"This week we also heard that both Northumbria and Cumbria are joining forces with use," Mr Knowles said.

"As well as the sculpture itself, one of the biggest tasks has been to ensure that knife banks are despatched to each force.

"At the outset of the project we thought we would have about 150 sites for our knife bank. To date we have been asked to supply more than 300. It is quite exhausting."

The new sculpture is another eye-catching project for the British Ironwork Centre.

Previous projects have included making a huge gorilla from spoons for TV entertainer Uri Geller.

Ambulance time rules to be altered

TARGETS for ambulance response times in Mid Wales will be dropped for all but the most life-threatening calls.

The Welsh Assembly has launched a one-year trial from October, where the performance by the Welsh Ambulance Service will be assessed instead by clinical outcomes. The target of responding to 65 per cent of life-threatening calls within eight minutes will be reviewed.

Statistics released last week showed the service missed its target for responding to emergency calls in June.

An ambulance arrived on the scene within eight minutes for 61.4 per cent of "red" emergency calls – and just 54.5 per cent in Powys.

The new model will introduce three new categories of calls – red, amber and green – to replace the current system.

Red calls are immediately life-threatening calls, amber calls refer to those patients with conditions which need treatment and care at the scene and fast transport to a healthcare facility if needed, while green are non-serious.

Call handlers will also have up to 120 seconds extra to ask important questions about a patient's symptoms, identify the nature of their condition and the type of response needed – this may be an advanced paramedic who can provide treatment at the scene and prevent the need for further hospital treatment or an ambulance crewed by paramedics to treat and stabilise a patient before taking them to hospital.



Alfie Bradley from the British Ironwork Centre is working on the knife sculpture

Blaze breaks out at church

A FIRE at an Oswestry church may have been started deliberately.

The blaze began outside at rear of Hope Church on Friday afternoon last week and quickly spread inside.

Firefighters trying to deal with the incident found themselves hampered by onlookers and police had to be called to put a cordon around the area of Laburnum Drive in Eastern Oswestry.

The alarm was raised when passers-by noticed smoke coming from the back of the church.

Firefighters from Oswestry were first on scene and other units, including the aerial ladder from Telford were called in amid fears that the building could be overwhelmed.

Shropshire Fire Safety Officer Shaun Baker said the Oswestry crews did well to contain the blaze quickly.

"The fire started at the rear of the property but spread inside. Fire damage was limited but there was also smoke damage," he said.

Mr Baker said in such incidents it was vital that firefighters were able to do their job without hindrance from the public.

"Unfortunately we had to ask for help from the police to clear onlookers from the area and put up a safety cordon," he said.

Resident Kim Dawson said the church put on a lot of activities for the community.

"I have four children and they have all been to the holiday club there. The church does a lot for the area," she said.

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BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

The great news this week was seeing world famous adventurer and balloonist Per Lindstrand throwing his weight behind The Chronicle's "We Mean Business" campaign.

The campaign has been launched to celebrate Oswestry businesses, champion innovation and to back local traders. So it's really the best news possible to have the backing of the entrepreneur, who made his name on ballooning adventures with Virgin tycoon Sir Richard Branson.

It's even better news that Mr Lindstrand has agreed to be guest speaker at the Chronicle Business Club meeting on September 2 at The Townhouse. That should be a night to remember with a unique opportunity to hear stories of his balloon adventures along with lots of business background information. He will take part in a question and answer session with Chronicle Associate Editor Iain St John and will share thoughts on his move back into balloon production along with highlighting the importance of exporting and high performance.

Sounds like a night not to be missed for the Oswestry business community.

It's been a massive week for both Oswestry and Welshpool with people flocking to the towns as the National Eisteddfod took place in Meifod. How nice has it been to see streets buzzing with people, restaurants fully booked, hotel rooms full and the bed and breakfast community stretched to the limit.

And it's been a double success for Oswestry with thousands attending the annual agricultural show last Saturday.

This show really has evolved into one of the best in the country and is a real credit to the hard working team of organisers who make sure everything runs smoothly each year.

There was a real victory for common sense in Oswestry this week with Shropshire Council backing down on moves to prevent a florist displaying her flowers outside her Bailey Street premises.

Wendy Hughes had been told by the council to remove the attractive display from outside her Flower Gallery business because they were not at table level height.

Customers put 2,300 names to a petition backing Wendy's protests and the council has now stepped down.

There I was thinking Shropshire Council was making every possible effort to cut costs. Well those cuts haven't gone deep enough if someone at the council still has time to go around telling a shopkeeper, trying to make a living in Oswestry town centre, that her floral displays are contravening some new law.



Oliver Harrison, who underwent a transplant, relaxes with his family at their home in Oswestry



Three people on average die in the UK each day waiting for an organ transplant



Oliver Harrison after his transplant. His family are asking people to join the organ donor register.

WORKING FOR YOU



One of my priorities in the last Parliament as both MP for North Shropshire and Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs was to improve rural communications.

I was elected on a promise to continue the work to bring better broadband and mobile phone services to my constituents.

Since May, Connecting Shropshire has continued to roll out fibre optic broadband to more and more homes. You can check their progress in your area by going to www.connectingshropshire.co.uk/when-and-where/

It is encouraging that they are on course to connect 62,000 homes and businesses by the end of next year. Five years ago almost three million homes and businesses in the UK did not have access to basic broadband services, with only 45 per cent of the country connected to superfast broadband.

The Government is providing money to help stimulate private sector investment in broadband and to ensure that the benefits of improved broadband infrastructure reach beyond the limits of where it is commercially viable to install it. This is because it does not always make economic sense for private sector companies to invest in the infrastructure, such as cables, in areas that are harder to reach.

Last week, Connecting Shropshire announced details of its 'Superfast' Voucher Scheme' which offers small and medium sized businesses (employing less than 250 people) a voucher of up to £3,000 for a superfast connection. Importantly, this will not hinder your connection to the main roll out programme.

The vouchers are available immediately and are on a first-come, first-served basis until March 31, 2016. I hope that eligible companies will take advantage of this scheme. Another issue of vital importance to my constituents is better mobile coverage. It is incredibly frustrating that it is not possible to drive between any of the five market towns in North Shropshire without losing signal. Unbelievably the service is actually deteriorating. Our new data heavy phones are slowing down the networks in North Shropshire to a snail's pace.

The Government wants to ensure that 4G speeds become the norm, and has signed a landmark deal with the four main mobile networks to invest £5 billion in the UK communications network, guaranteeing that 90 per cent of the UK's landmass will have mobile reception by 2017.

I have been in touch with each of the major networks this week outlining my concerns and asking them to work with Connecting Shropshire to ensure that mobile reception is improved.

Owen Paterson
North Shropshire MP

Family's heartfelt plea for more organ donations

Organ transplants save lives. AMY DOWNWARD finds out more from an Oswestry mum

IT is due to a transplant that little Oliver Harrison is here today.

He was given the gift of life after being donated a heart by a total stranger.

Oliver's story comes as new figures have revealed 15 Shropshire residents have died waiting for a transplant in the past five years and 76 people in the county are currently waiting for a transplant.

In November 2013 Oliver, from Weston Lane, Oswestry, was seriously ill with massive heart failure.

Now, after a life-saving transplant, the little boy and his family are looking forward to a bright future.

His mum, Emma, said she wants people to sign up to the organ donor scheme and help someone like her son.

The latest figures show that last year in Shropshire, 19 people's lives were saved or improved thanks to deceased donation.

However, across the UK in 2014/15, the number of people donating organs fell for the first time in 11 years.

The Organ Donation and Transplantation Activity Report 2014/15 revealed that, when approached, four out of 10 families refuse to give permission for organs to be donated.

On average, three people in the UK die each day in need of an organ transplant.

In Shropshire, six people also benefited from a living donor transplant, where donors gave a kidney or part of their liver.

Seven-year-old Oliver, who goes to Belian House School, was born with hypoplastic left heart syndrome.



Oliver Harrison with his brother Harry, father Stuart and mother Emma

It meant only one side of his heart was functioning.

When he was just three days old he had eight hours of open heart surgery.

Two more operations followed.

Then in February 2013 he was put on the heart register waiting list.

He was then given a heart transplant in August and was allowed home in September.

Emma said: "You can't buy someone the gift of life, you can't get it off the shelf in a shop or from the internet."

"A grieving family has given Oliver that gift."

"The chances of it ever happening to you are minuscule but it costs nothing to sign up to the organ donation scheme."

"This is something very close to my heart."

"It is all about awareness. Everyone carries on with their lives day to

day and then do not hear or talk about organ donation.

"However, most people needing organ donation are not born poorly. You never know who you may help."

"The chances to give an organ are so slim but chances of needing one are bigger."

"Hospitals now have advance medicines and great surgeons - but without the organs they cannot save lives."

"Oliver would have died without the transplant."

"He is now living a new life and can do everything he could not before - he loves football and is doing so well."

Last year saw 4,431 organ transplants take place across the UK compared to 4,655 the year before.

This drop of 224, or five per cent, is the first for more than a decade. The figures come from the Organ Donation

and Transplantation Activity Report 2014/15 which suggests that the reason for this drop is because fewer people are dying in circumstances where they could donate and that there has been no increase in the rate of people signing up to install it. This is because it does not always make economic sense for private sector companies to invest in the infrastructure, such as cables, in areas that are harder to reach.

But the report also states that, in circumstances where a decision to donate was known, 120 families felt unable to honour their loved one's decision to donate, denying them their dying wish to save others after their death.

NHS Blood and Transplant is asking people in Shropshire to join the Organ Donor Register and then tell their family and friends about their decision.

They say families are much more likely to agree to donation if they know it is what their loved one wanted.

Sally Johnson, NHS Blood and Transplant's director of organ donation and transplantation, said: "We are truly grateful to the deceased donors who enabled 19 people in Shropshire to receive an organ transplant last year. Their donations have saved and improved lives."

"Sadly, 15 people from Shropshire have died while waiting on the transplant waiting list in the past five years."

"We cannot hope to save more lives unless there is a revolution in attitudes towards organ donation. We need everyone to talk about organ donation with their families and agree to donate if ever they are asked."

"We understand that families are expected to consider donation in their darkest hour. So we would remind everyone - tell those closest to you now if you want to donate your organs and record that decision by joining the 160,793 people from Shropshire who are already on the NHS Organ Donor Register."

"Should the time come, your family will know you want to donate your organs to help to save others."

To join the NHS Organ Donor Register visit www.organdonation.nhs.uk or call 0300 123 2323.

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SOURCE: The Newspaper Society - Consumer Catalyst 2014

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Letters

Think about this creeping urbanisation

THE creeping urbanisation of the west and south of Shrewsbury is being approved with little thought for the loss of green space, clean air and traffic management.

I believe that the object of the Shropshire Council cunning plan is to create so much more traffic trying to get to the north and east of the town, where most of the commercial aspects are situated, thus creating serious problems of road use through the town centre or via the rabbit run through Fitz and Leaton to Battlefield.

To further compound this problem a planning application has been submitted to build a further 300 houses in Bicton.

This is likely to be approved by Shropshire Council as the more cross-town traffic chaos they can inflict will give them a lever to apply pressure on central government to reinstate funding for the North West Relief Road. We can all see that the NW Relief Road is much needed but I believe that it should be built first to manage traffic and then allow development to proceed with proper infrastructure, rather than approve every large development to the west, where schools are full, as a form of cynical coercion on central government.

So I urge Shropshire Council to get the North West Relief Road built first before

continuing to concrete over good farmland and generate a substantial increase in local traffic to the detriment of all.

A recent national survey has shown that people living in high density traffic areas tend to eat more and become obese with associated illnesses. Perhaps that is why Shropshire Council is approving all this development within two miles of the hospital mortuary. Meanwhile, cynicism about their planning motives are alive and well in Bicton.

BOB MILLS
Bicton
Shrewsbury

Let's give all our wonderful nursing staff a better deal

HAVING had treatment at three of the Shropshire hospitals, mostly at the Royal Shrewsbury for about 10 years and will need blood control indefinitely, I can't understand why the NHS trust can't look after their own.

They should give our lovely nursing staff on the wards better wages so that they will stay on in our hospitals. Nurses and health care assistants have low morale and get depression as they see bank nurses getting enormous wages.

We patients want our caring British, English speaking nursing staff on the wards as we can relate to them.

After the Second World War we had home nursing lectures and one of the main points we were given was always reassure your patients. The NHS is spending millions recruiting nursing staff from abroad; this money could be spent getting British nurses back into our hospitals.

We would like to see health care assistants getting more money, they are cheerful, caring and never complain doing such tasks as keeping patients clean and comfortable and are so reassuring.

Surveys should be done with independent people, interviewing patients to get their opinions.

I would now like to say that we have some wonderful foreign staff working in our hospitals including consultants, doctors, surgeons, specialists in many fields, and nursing staff. Most of them are very courteous and caring.

We could not manage without them.
Name and address supplied

It's not always easy to use the paths

R KNIGHT of Newport is so right to say that cyclists should use the cycle path where provided. (Chronicle Letters July 23)

Unfortunately a judge did not support that view though and said it was up to the cyclist to choose!

Some cyclists seem to use main roads in a manner which gives the impression that they feel immune to any injuries.

As a cyclist, I do use the path provided but therein lies another problem.

In north Telford, the cycle part of the path provided for cyclists and pedestrians frequently changes from the side nearest the traffic to the one nearest the hedge.

Also the cycle logo is often either missing altogether or not repeated from the start to the end of a length off the stretch.

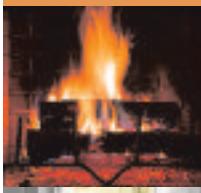
The result of this inconsistency and lack of logos is that neither cyclists nor pedestrians are necessarily aware of which side they should be using.

Ideally, there needs to be a requirement for cyclists to use cycle paths where possible.

And those paths need to be consistently marked (as a nationwide practice) on the outer edge of a shared path, i.e. next to the other traffic.

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Letters to the Editor

Claims made by the wind lobby are just not accurate

LIES, damn lies and wind farmers' statements! The wind farm lobby continuously and deliberately keep making statements that are totally untrue.

Wind generated electricity is on and off shore. The farmer is quoted as being the cheapest, but the collateral damage cost - roads, delays, house values, local tourism and aesthetics - which has an immeasurable value - are not included. Wind - a variable in quantity, quality, availability and location is not a suitable source of power for electricity which requires the exact opposite of these characteristics.

The British public have been duped for too long - they have been exposed to a drip, drip of wind farm propaganda (note subliminal advertising on TV where turbines appear in the background, or first in foreground when talking of clean energy).

Wind may be the biggest producer of clean electricity because of a preliminary dupe, a scam, a well-ordered series of lies - wind does not and never will work.

MARK NORWOOD
Whittington

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Readers' Letters,
Oswestry Chronicle,
Ketley,
Telford, TF1 5HU

EMAIL

letters@oswestrychronicle.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Organic diet is best answer

HERE are a few facts from someone who has grown up on a farm in the 1960s and 70s, and worked for a commercial grower. Vegetables are sprayed with toxic chemicals more commonly known as insecticides and herbicides. As for wheat and barley, farmers put a corrosive on the grain to preserve it in storage. If people want to eat healthily, the only answer is to eat a balanced organic diet, if you can afford it, but even that won't protect you from spray drift.

Readers may be able to help out diabetes battle

DIABETES UK is looking for people to help spread the word about the shocking numbers of people with diabetes who, as a consequence of their condition, have had an amputation.

Readers may be able to help us in our search. By sharing personal experiences and stories of living with a diabetes-related amputation, people can really help us to highlight the seriousness of this problem as we work to put a stop to unnecessary amputations. Every week more than 100 leg, foot or toe amputations are carried out on people with diabetes - but 80 per cent of these could have been prevented. This is why we are campaigning for the NHS to consistently give people high-quality annual foot checks, to ensure they understand their risk of foot problems and that they know how to care for their feet. People who are happy to share their stories are invited to send a brief summary of their experience to Diabetes UK via email at: PressTeam@diabetes.org.uk

PETER SHORRICK
Diabetes UK

PETER SHORRICK



The charred remains of the building at Rednal Karting where bosses say they are committed to reopening as soon as possible



The blaze at its peak. Photo: Shropshire Fire and Rescue

Firm back on track

OWNERS of a popular karting attraction, devastated by a blaze at the weekend, say they are working hard to re-open for corporate karting by the end of this week.

Fire broke out in the main building and workshop of Rednal Karting near Oswestry in the early hours of Saturday.

The fierce blaze destroyed the building and thousands of pounds of equipment and vehicles inside – including manager Tom Wrigley's

Report by Sue Austin

prized track racing car. Despite the damage an owners' race day that had been scheduled weeks beforehand still went ahead on Sunday morning.

Scores of individual owners of racing karts turned up at the racetrack, which was unaffected by the fire, to support the company.

Mike Rees, the owner of the business on the former World War Two RAF base, thanked the owners.

"It was great to see so many people down at Rednal on Sunday," he said.

"We are currently working hard to get fully open for corporate karting by the end of the week."

One of the owner/drivers, Bob Bickerton, from Crewe, was among those who took part.

He said: "I was blown away by the destruction, but I was even more blown away by Mike and Tom's desire and bulldog spirit to come back from this better, bigger and more ambitious than before."



The track at Rednal Karting was unaffected and an owners' day on Sunday went ahead as planned

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Head tells of importance of school exams

THE head of one of Shropshire's top schools has urged parents not to tell their children that exams do not matter.

Jonathan Forster, principal of Moreton Hall School, near Oswestry, said telling young people "Qué será, será" – whatever will be will be – "isn't good enough advice and surely can't reflect the value placed upon academic success in the highly competitive modern work place".

Writing in a national newspaper, Mr Forster said results were important when it came to finding a job.

He said it was interesting to note that the schools which were promoting stress relieving and mindfulness programmes now tell youngsters that exams are not the most important aspect of education.

"Of course they aren't," he added. "But results really do matter."

"In the simplest terms, every person must do their best: the best for their school, the best for themselves."

Mr Forster said: "Good schools in every sector of the educational market have always believed in educating the 'whole person': sport, music, drama, taking responsibility for others – learning for life."

Alert given over theft of diesel

DIESEL thieves have struck twice in recent weeks in a village near Oswestry.

About 25 litres of red diesel was taken from a tank at a house in Trefonen, overnight between Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning last week. An attempt was also made to siphon diesel from a lorry parked in a lay-by between Friday, July 24, and Saturday, July 25.

This year the main beneficiaries were Hope House Children's Hospice and IQRA, a Bangladeshi charity which provides treatment for disabled people who wouldn't be able to otherwise afford it.

Each charity received £1,200 and Mr Miah said they were also able to give £100 to Once Upon a Smile and £50 each towards the Nepal earthquake appeal and to feed hungry children in Sudan.

WE MEAN BUSINESS

THE Chronicle's We Mean Business campaign celebrates Oswestry's businesses. This week we celebrate the Simla Tandoori Restaurant on Beatrice Street.

The Simla restaurant will be celebrating 40 years of business in Oswestry next year.

For owner George Miah being part of the community and helping good causes is an important part of his business.

The restaurant recently celebrated 39 years in business by hosting a charity dinner, raising more than £2,500.

Mr Miah has been hosting charity dinners since 1988.

He said: "My family and my partner Julie would like to thank everyone who supported us on the evening. On the night there was live music, raffles, and auction and a four-course dinner to raise the funds for the charities. There were 84 people who attended."

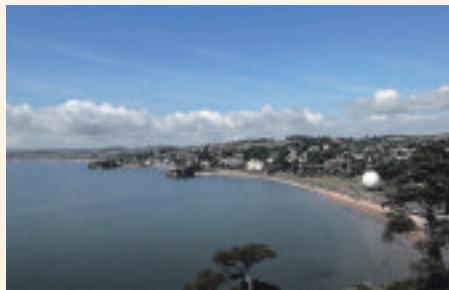
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Hope House Children's Hospice's Lynsey Kilvert receives funding from George Miah and his partner Julie

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Soccer contest in its final stages

AN annual football tournament which has raised nearly £130,000 for charity over the years is entering its final stages for this year.

The Graham Edwards Memorial Trophy raises funds for Leukaemia Research. Founded in memory of Graham Edwards, a promising 21-year-old footballer from Gobowen who died from the illness, the event is now in its 41st year. The first semi-final was between Gobowen Celtic and St Martins on Tuesday at Gobowen Playing Fields with St Martins winning the tie. The second semi-final will take place this evening (Thursday) between Morda and The Oak at the same venue at 6.30pm with the final taking place on Sunday at 3pm at Gobowen Playing Fields.

The New Saints' Adrian Cieslewicz will present the trophy to the winners.

The Graham Edwards Memorial Trophy dinner will take place at the Lion Quays on October 11. For tickets to the dinner contact Andrew Faulks on 07854 742729.

Teens organise fun day in town

A GROUP of young people from Oswestry have organised a family fun day in the town, to raise money for the Help the Heroes charity.

The teenagers are all involved in the National Citizen Service programme, giving up part of their summer holidays to the scheme.

Part of their project is to organise a social action project that benefits the local community and the young people decided to hold the event tomorrow (Friday) to provide something for families to do in the town during the holidays.

It takes place at The Centre in Oak Street from 11am to 3pm.

NEWS IN BRIEF

New road safety strategy launched

TOO many motorcyclists and young people are being injured on the roads of Wales, fire chiefs have said.

The Welsh Fire and Rescue Service has launched its new Road Safety Strategy.

It is hoped the strategy will help meet the service's ultimate aim of seeing no-one killed on local roads.

All three of the Welsh fire services – North Wales, South Wales, and Mid and West Wales – have joined forces to create the new campaign, to try to change driver behaviour.

It comes after it was revealed the number of deaths and casualties across Shropshire and Powys had risen by more than 150 over the past year, taking the overall figure above 1,800.

Parade will mark VJ Day anniversary

A PARADE will be held thorough Welshpool to mark the 70th anniversary of VJ Day.

Welshpool Town Council has organised the march to mark the date on which Japan surrendered in World War Two.

The council has teamed up with the Royal British Legion branch to hold the parade which will begin in the Berriew Street car park at 2.50pm on August 15.

Anybody who wants to take part should gather in the car park at 2.20pm and it will end with refreshments in the Lower Market Hall in the town hall, Broad Street.

For more information, call town clerk Robert Robinson on (01938) 553142.

Couple receive honour in memory of late son

Report by Graham Breeze

A COUPLE have been to the House of Lords to receive a posthumous award in memory of their late son.

Don and Llinos Lewis picked up the honour on behalf of their son Ian who died in May after a 12-month battle with pancreatic cancer.

Mr Lewis, who was assistant chief executive and director of partnerships at Hackney Council, died aged 52.

He was posthumously awarded a Public Sector Hero Award by Locality UK, the country's leading network of communities ambitious for change.

Mr Lewis oversaw relationships between Hackney Council and the Voluntary Community Sector grants programme and received the award for promoting social justice.

Mr Lewis's father Don and his wife travelled from their home in Welshpool to the capital.

They said it had been a special occasion at The House of Lords.

"Ian told us very little about his role at Hackney Council so what we heard made Llinos and I very proud of all his achievements," he said.

At the ceremony he was described as a person "that didn't recognise sides" by Jake Ferguson, chief executive officer of Hackney Council for Voluntary Services.



Llinos and Don Lewis from Welshpool received a posthumous award in memory of their late son Ian

Ramblers to walk along varied route

THE Welshpool Ramblers, led by Matthew Prosser, will be walking in the Abermule area on Sunday.

Starting from Abermule Community Centre at 9.30am (Explorer Map 215 Map Ref: 164949), the six-mile route will be varied, including the canal towpath and some moderate climbs.

If weather is kind, the views will be spectacular. Meet at the start of the walk or, at 9am, in the upper part of Church Street car park, Welshpool, from where shared transport may be available. Further information can be obtained on (01686) 630572. All are welcome, but no dogs allowed.

Advance notice is given for the walk on August 23 which will be to the Blue Lake above Fairbourne. The Welshpool Ramblers trip to the Bearded Lake (Llyn Barfog) above Aberdyfi on July 26 was somewhat shaved in view of the less than welcoming weather conditions. Five members led by Van Evans waited for the heavy rain to ease before setting off from the railway station for the residential roads that lead to the hillside above the town for the track to Mynydd Bychan, Bwlchgwyn and Llechweud.

Vandals target vehicles in town

VANDALS scratched two cars parked near a supermarket.

The two cars were parked in Greenfields, Welshpool, facing the Tesco supermarket. The damage was caused overnight on July 27/28. PC Colin Baker, of Welshpool Police, said both cars suffered scratches to the offside.



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Apprentices are given the chance to go up in world



Deryn Smith from Oswestry has started an apprenticeship with Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service

Calls made for talks over dust from factory

COMPLAINTS of dust and smells from Chirk's Kronospan factory have prompted a call for an urgent meeting between the town council and the company.

Councillors say they also want assurances that sawdust stacks at the factory are safe, in the aftermath of the explosion at a wood company in Bosley, Cheshire.

They also want to know how the public can contact the area's environmental health department to report problems.

Several members of Chirk Town Council told a meeting this week that they had had complaints from residents about dust falling on the Welsh border town, smells and irritations such as watering eyes.

The council has regular environmental liaison meetings with Kronospan which makes multi density fibreboard and employs about 600 people.

But council chairman, Councillor Dewi Evans, said that the last meeting had been in March, when the councillors had been assured that environmental problems would be sorted out in a matter of weeks.

"That was March and the problems are getting worse," Councillor Evans said. "We must call for another meeting urgently." Councillor Jackie Allen said: "I am concerned that, after the explosion in Cheshire, we need to have assurances from Kronospan that it monitors its dust stacks. A lot of people have been in touch about dust issues and running eyes from formaldehyde."

Councillor Brian Colley said people in Chirk also needed to know where to contact at Wrexham Borough Council if they had environmental problems.

The council agreed to contact Kronospan and Wrexham County Borough Council.

Special measures lifted from school

A PRIMARY school on the Shropshire border has been taken out of special measures.

Ysgol Y Waun in Chirk has made good progress over the past year, according to Estyn inspectors. They say they are satisfied that a foundation has been established to be built upon.

Headteacher Kath Eccleston praised the hard work and dedication of staff following publication of the report.

Estyn inspectors said the school had raised the standards achieved by more able pupils, while strong progress has also been made in improving numeracy, ICT and Welsh across the curriculum.

The primary school was created from two individual schools, infant and junior,

TEENAGERS had a high flying first day on the job after starting apprenticeships with Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service.

Deryn Smith, 19, from Oswestry, and Dan Adams, 16, from Cruckton, near Shrewsbury, were welcomed with a lunchtime ride aboard an aerial ladder platform.

The pair were safely buckled on the platform before soaring to almost 100ft –

Report by Pam Kingsley

equivalent to the height of an eight storey building.

Colleagues Rebecca Talbot, 17, from Telford, and Hugo Lee, 16, from Shawbury, watched from the ground on the drill platform at Shrewsbury fire HQ.

The four are soon to be joined by Poppy Mann and Courtney Farr, both 18 and from Shrewsbury, and are the first apprentices at the fire and rescue service for a number of years.

Deryn, who will be working in the IT department, said: "Going in the ALP was a bit different. I'm really pleased though to be given this opportunity to work in websites and graphics."

Dan, who has joined the fire safety team, said he was looking forward to informing the public on how to protect themselves and prevent fires.

Rebecca, who is the daughter of a firefighter, will be working in admin support. She said: "I felt a bit nervous as it was the first day. We are all settling in really."

Man fined for attack in pub

A 50-year-old factory worker punched a man he had not spoken to for 10 years in the face when he saw the victim drinking in an Oswestry pub, a court heard.

Carl Roberts was left with a cut above his eye and a swollen nose following the assault by Karl Pugh in January this year.

Pugh was fined £305 for what was described as "a nasty incident" by magistrates. Pugh, of Dolwydarn in Pontfadog, near Oswestry, who admitted a charge of assaulting Mr Roberts by beating, was also ordered to pay £100 compensation and £85 court costs.

Stephen Scully, for Pugh, said his client was embarrassed that he found himself in court after what was a chance meeting.

He said the incident was out of character for Pugh, who had been drinking.

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A fantastic new in-store butchery has opened at Stans Superstore in St Martins.

Led by Keith Jones and Paul Cooke, who have over 65 years experience between them, the new venture has already proved popular with customers.

With a range of locally sourced British meat, the butchery provides an opportunity to buy freshly packed produce from the cabinet, or a cut of meat prepared individually by Keith and Paul, who will be familiar to many customers as they spent many years working at Syd Hodgkins' butchers shop in Ellesmere.

Andrew Faulks, partner of Stans, said they were 'over the moon' by the reaction from customers.

He continued: "We used to have an instore butchers in the 1980s and '90s, so now it has come full circle."

"It's great to have the butchers back in the store to give customers exactly what they want."

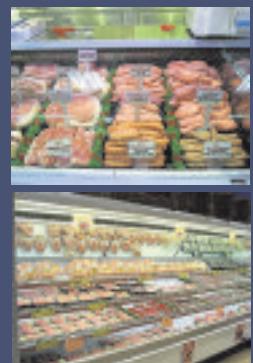
"The response from customers so far has been fantastic. We have seen a lot of new customers too, which is great, and we look forward to serving all our customers for many years to come."

Mr Faulks added that the emphasis is on top quality, fresh British meat and excellent value for money, with all products locally sourced. Keith and Paul will also be making their famous secret recipe 'Ellesmere Sausages', while Keith's renowned homemade steak and kidney pies made fresh at the store are proving popular with customers.

Keith commented: "We've really settled in and the butchery is getting really busy."

"We've had an excellent response from customers and a lot of old faces from Ellesmere have been coming in, as well as the regular customers at Stans who have been complimenting us on the service."

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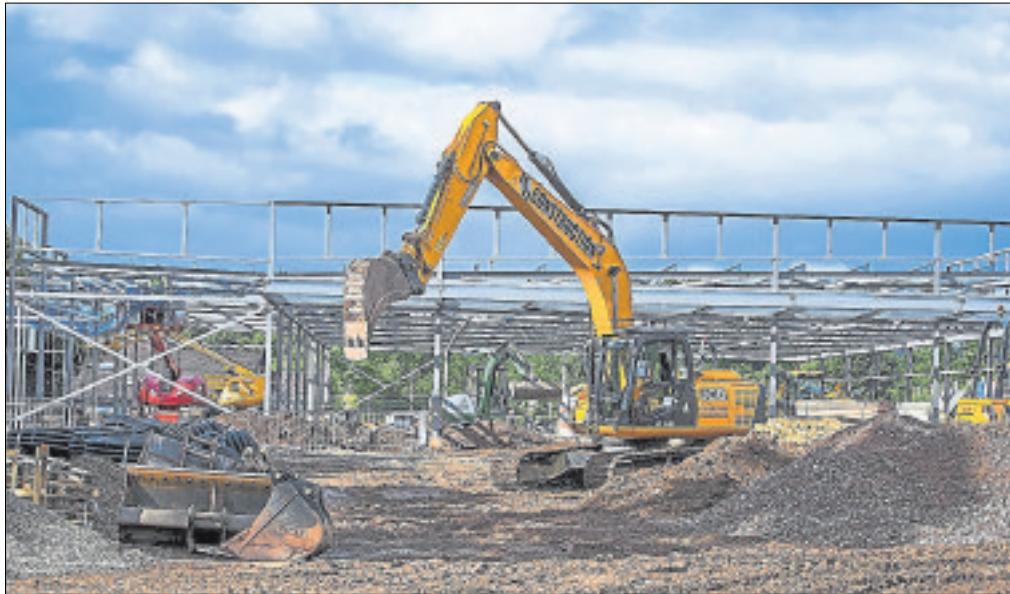
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Town has a tale of two sites



Work is moving forward quickly on the site of the new Aldi store on Shrewsbury Road, Oswestry

THEY are two supermarket development sites a few hundred yards apart - and two very different scenes.

On one piece of land on Shrewsbury Road in Oswestry work is well underway

to put up a new Aldi store, just over three months after the company was granted planning permission.

It plans to open the supermarket in November, in time for the Christmas spending spree and says up to 40 new jobs will be created. Yet just a little further down the road there is no

sign of building work starting on the former livestock market site that is earmarked for a Morrisons supermarket, a cinema and restaurants.

Outline planning permission for the multi million pound complex was granted five years ago and there were hopes that building could



It's all quiet on the site for the Morrisons supermarket on Shrewsbury Road, Oswestry

begin in 2013. The livestock market finished its relocation to a smaller part of the Shrewsbury Road site in March this year which should have been the green light for work on the shopping and leisure development to begin.

But the land has simply been cleared and fenced off.

Morrisons says that it is still committed to developing a new superstore. But what the company called "uncertainties" with cinema operator Cineworld and the granting of planning permission for the new Aldi have meant that the supermarket now says it "wants to take some time to review its plans".

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Expansion for company

OSWESTRY'S VCW Security, one of the UK's leading distributors of IT security solutions, is undertaking a major global expansion by establishing a new USA-based business.

Voice Comms Warehouse America LLP will be headquartered at Wilmington in the state of Delaware where it has been successfully registered.

The new operation enables VCW to extend its business partnership with SiFi Networks, an international Fiber to the Home (FTTH) network developer. This rapidly expanding organisation funds, builds and operates community wide, state-of-the-art fibre optic networks that carry next generation applications including superfast internet, video and phone, creating FiberCities throughout the USA and Europe. Ben Bawtree-Jobson, CEO of Si-Fi Networks, said: "We are pleased to be partnering with VCW which has an outstanding track record of service delivery in the competitive FTTH marketplace and provides the highest level of support."

Couple in court over drugs claim

A COUPLE from Oswestry have appeared in court in connection with the alleged supply of Class A drugs.

Hayley Sudlow, 32, and 25-year-old Adam Talbot appeared at Shrewsbury Magistrates Court. Sudlow faces two allegations of being in possession of heroin and cocaine with intent to supply on August 2. Talbot is charged with two allegations that he was concerned in making an offer to supply Class A drugs on the same date. Sudlow, of Queen Elizabeth Close, and Talbot, of Chapel Street, were remanded and will appear at Shrewsbury Crown Court later this month.

Two of the grants are being used to fund summer activities for young people provided by Fusion Arts Oswestry and The New Saints FC Community Foundation.

Lottery project will help residents get to work

Report by Sue Austin

THE first major grant from £1 million lottery funding awarded to three villages five years ago will help people get to work.

A Wheels 2 Work scheme has been set up in St Martins, Gobowen and Weston Rhyn loaning out scooters and electric and push bikes to those who need transport to get a job.

The Three Parishes Big Local Partnership, volunteers managing the 10-year programme bringing £1million of Big Lottery funding, says the project is the first to be funded from its Big Grants Scheme.

Wheels 2 Work, an initiative managed by Shropshire Rural Communities Charity, has been awarded £6,800 for an 18-month project aimed at helping people get into or keep work by solving their transport problems. Bridget Larraway from Three Parishes Big Local, said: "Wheels 2 Work started life in 1997 to help people in Shropshire find affordable and flexible transport to work, particularly young people looking for work for the first time, those returning to work after a long period, or working for a low wage." The partnership has also awarded nine community chest grants totalling £3,800 to groups and projects. They include The Three Parishes Canal Action group; City Lane and area residents in Hengoed; Fusion Arts, Oswestry; The New Saints Community Foundation; St Martins Guides; Focus Weston Rhyn; St Martins School Sports Centre; Weston Rhyn Under 19s football team and Offa Events.

Andy Goldsmith, chief executive of Hope House Children's Hospice, and hospice co-ordinator David Riffel have signed up for the charity's annual cycle challenge, which will

Hospice bosses will lead the way



Andy Goldsmith and David Riffel will be taking part in a charity ride for Hope House Children's Hospice

THE bosses of Shropshire's children's hospice will get on their bikes to lead a fundraising ride through the Mid Wales mountains.

take place on Sunday. Riders will set off from the children's hospice in Morda, near Oswestry, and will have a choice of two routes to tackle this year. The first will be a 56-mile route from Hope House to Lake Vyrnwy and back, while more enthusiastic pedallers can take on a 72-mile route that includes a diversion to Bala

and a climb over the Bwlch y Groes pass – one of the highest public road mountain passes in Wales with a summit altitude of 545 metres.

Vanessa Thomas, the charity's fundraising manager, said the event is really popular with cyclists who seemed to return year on year to take part.

Inquest told woman had cocaine in her system

A WOMAN who died in bed after a night out had cocaine in her system, an inquest heard.

Holly Melton-Dyer had been left to sleep by her husband, but when he checked on her later in the afternoon, she had died.

Mrs Melton-Dyer, 39, of Marcella Close, Gwilsfield, near Welshpool, had a history of taking cocaine and had visited rehabilitation units in the past to help her overcome the problem.

But an inquest at Welshpool Magistrates Court on Friday heard that her husband, Richard Dyer, knew she had taken the drug again about two weeks before her death on November 1 last year.

Powys coroner Andrew Barkley said Mrs Melton-Dyer had been on a night out with friends the previous evening.

"The following day she was found dead at home by her husband," he said.

Mr Dyer, in evidence read out to the court, said: "I was asleep when she came home and I woke up at about 7am before going out."

"It wasn't unusual for her to sleep in the day because she was on medication to treat bipolar. She also had asthma."

"At about 4.30pm I went to check on her and I tried to rouse her. However, I couldn't. I called her father to help and then we called the ambulance and police."

Mr Barkley said a post mortem found a small amount of cocaine was in her blood.

He said: "Her medical cause of death was 1A, acute left ventricle failure, 2, myocardial hypertrophy, caused by cocaine use."

"I record a conclusion that her death was drug related."

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Business has a great reputation for service

BILL Smith, owner of Fas-cias Guttering, Windows and Doors, based at Maesbury Road Industrial Estate opposite Tudor Griffiths in Oswestry has built up a strong reputation in more than 15 years of business.

Bill said: "Our reputation for excellent and friendly service has always kept us busy over the years."

"We still do lots of fascias and guttering while our windows and doors have always been popular, particularly with the trade. Many of the local tradespeople do come here to purchase UPVC products. There is a wide selection and various styles to choose from including UPVC doors and windows as well as composite doors. We have been trading for years and we are always looking to offer new things."

"For example we have recently started fitting look-a-like slate roofs for conservatories. The benefits of these roofs is that you can use your conservatory all year around because they keep the temperature down in the summer and retain the heat in the winter, making this a room you can use all year round. To replace the roof we remove the old polycarbonate roof and then put in steel strengthening bars. A marine ply is installed and that is covered with breathable felt. Plastic slates are then installed. They look absolutely great and you really can't tell the difference between that and actual slate. The look-a-like slate effect is fantastic and the roofs are already proving popular. The work to install



Bill Smith and his team have a reputation for great service

the new roof can take between two to five days depending on the size of the conservatory. Our customers have absolutely loved the new roofs. Anyone with a conservatory will tell you in the summer you can't sit in it because it gets too hot while in the winter the heat just goes through the roof and it is too cold. These roofs mean you can use your conservatory throughout the year. Another service we are providing is bathroom panels. These panels are one metre wide and 2.4 metres high.

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A vast array of components and spares stores behind the scenes include complete heating systems, water treatment systems, smoke detectors, cables, switches, fuses, washers, pipes, taps – the list is endless.

Oswestry Electrical & Plumbing Factors is the main distributor for some of the products on offer and the sales distributor for others and the friendly counter staff are able to obtain almost everything you are likely to need in the electrical and plumbing field.

One area of the showroom is designated to a superb range of kitchens and whether you want to spend £1,000 or £25,000 on your kitchen you will receive expert advice from our designers who will either visit your home for a consultation or produce your ideal kitchen with your measurements and ideas, using computer generated



designs. For more information about factors visit www.oepf-ltd.co.uk or Oswestry Electrical and Plumbing email sales@oepf-ltd.co.uk

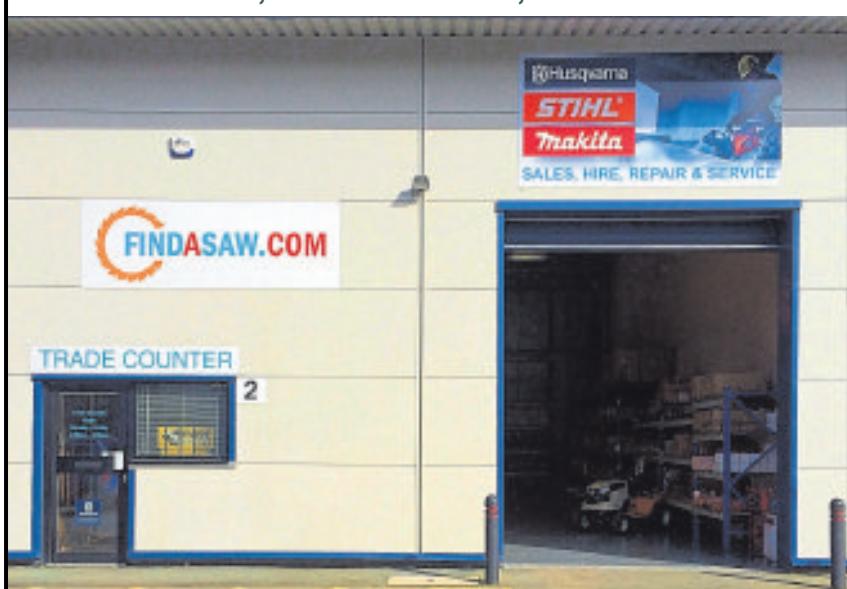


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Picture focus



There was plenty of talented horse riders at Oswestry Show



Michelle Clark, Finnian Clark, Erin Clark and Sian Owen at the show



The horse section at Oswestry Show proved popular



Oswestry Show is renowned as the show where town meets country

Annual show is a winner again

Report by Sue Austin

OSWESTRY Show once again proved to be a winner with thousands of people attending the annual show on Saturday.

Shropshire's biggest one day show is billed as the event where town meets country and the agricultural flavour was certainly what attracted many of the visitors.

There were more than 150 entries in the cattle competitions and good entries in the horse, sheep and rare breed sections as well as the popular small animals show.

The event also attracted the national Border Leicester sheep show, the first time in its history that it has been held outside Scotland.

President of Oswestry Show John Evans said attracting the Border Leicester event was one of his highlights.

A Border Leicester breeder himself, he won reserve champion for his three-year-old ewe.

The show proved to be a real family affair for Oswestry businessman Tudor Griffiths.

He said: "My one son, Oliver, 13, won reserve champion with his pony while Harry, 14, won a first with one of the ducks that he breeds."

"The company won first prize in the trade stand competition and even our 1968 Mercedes 280, that was bought new by my grandfather,

took an award." Two of the top awards in the sheep section went to Jeannette Hares and her Millenheath flock of Shropshire Sheep from Higher Heath near Whitchurch.

"We are dairy farmers but I have the Shropshire sheep as a hobby," Jeannette said.

"My two ewe lambs won champion and reserve champion."

This year Oswestry Show took to social media, gaining 2,500 likes on Facebook in the days leading up to the event.

Councillor Joyce Barrow, one of the judges, praised the younger members of the show committee for being pro-active in getting more visitors to the event.

"I think the use of social media has certainly worked – there seems to be more people than ever here this year," she said.

She also praised the high number of food outlets at the event.

"Oswestry is gaining a real reputation for its food, from its fine dining to its local produce and so many of our successful food businesses are here today."



Andrew Butler from Hanmer with Section B heeling filly called Bliss



Elwin Downes from Llanymynech on his 1957 Ferguson



John Fitzpatrick with Tudor Griffiths's Mercedes 280L

Homes & Gardens

A four-page supplement featuring helpful hints and advice



Let the sunshine in with summer yellow hues

IT hasn't been the best of summers so let us try to bring a little sunshine to your home.

Yellow is the colour of sunshine, lemons,

sunflowers and buttercups, and even just a small dose of its golden hues will inject rooms with light and energy.

With so many shades to choose from –

think citrus bright through to champagne or

buttery gold – it's easy to liven up a space with uplifting zingy colour pop, or bring a warm glow to your space by plundering this palette. "Yellows are shades like no other; their tones are associated with warmth, op-

timism and happiness and they're able to brighten any space in an instant," says Julie Yarwood, interior designer for furniture specialist, Housing Units.

"Naturally, the popularity of yellow in-

terior peaks in the summer – especially if we're feeling somewhat starved of bright, sunny days – but there are ways to incorporate yellow into your decor which will work all year round."



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Flooring remains a popular choice

Property Advice

WOODEN flooring continues to be popular in properties throughout homes in the Shropshire and Mid Wales area and is a really great way to make a house your very own home.

An eye-catching alternative to carpet, a well designed and fitted wooden floor can brighten up a room.

If you're lucky enough to have period floorboards in your home, you've got a head start.

But if not, installing a wooden floor can be a simple DIY job.

Period floorboards are often hidden under carpet, tiles or lino, waiting to be discovered and restored to their former glory.

This usually means sanding them with an industrial floor sander and edger.

Original floorboards often have more modern boards mixed in where repairs have been done over the years.

Painting them makes it easier to disguise the new ones than with wood stain or varnish, although dark varnishes can work really well.

You can, of course, replace the new boards with period ones, but there's no guarantee that they'll match perfectly when sanded.

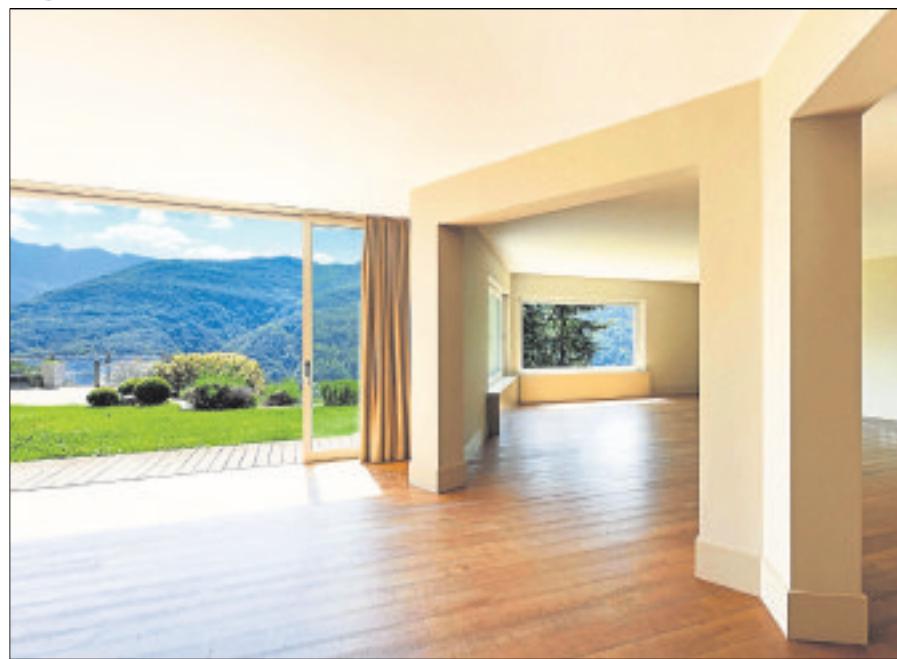
Laminate flooring, which has a picture of wood printed onto the boards, is an inexpensive way to get the look.

If you want the real deal, the good news is that other types of wooden flooring are now as easy to fit as laminate.

Boards that simply click and fit together, with no nails, screws or glue required, are widely available in both engineered and solid wood flooring. Engineered wood flooring has a top layer of real wood, with other layers underneath.

The thickness of the wood layer varies, so make sure you know how thick it is, as thicker layers can be sanded.

A floor that can be sanded a few times is



Wooden flooring can lighten up your home and create a traditional feeling to your property



Many householders fit their flooring themselves

a good investment because it can take more wear and tear.

Engineered wood is often a more practical choice than solid wood because the layers give

it added strength and durability. Unlike solid wood, it shouldn't shrink and expand when exposed to moisture and changes in temperature and humidity.

If your home is leasehold, you may have to get the freeholder's permission to fit wooden flooring or have the original floorboards exposed, especially if you have neighbours underneath.

The lease may have clauses about wooden floors or causing a noise nuisance, although installing sound-absorbing underlay may be acceptable to the freeholder.

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Widenor chevron yellow wallpaper by Thibaut, £56 a roll



Sofa upholstered in yellow cube velvet fabric, £32 a metre, available from Voyage Decoration



Window and furniture painted in Tibetan Gold, from £13.92

How to tap into sunshine style

FROM MILD and mellow to bold and bright, Gabrielle Fagan reveals the punchy touches to make rooms bellow with yellow style.

YELLOW POWER

Invest in the power of yellow by working the walls with yellow paint or wallpaper, or simply make a statement with a stunning piece of yellow furniture.

"Our eyes can see more yellows than any other colour in the spectrum, and so it's one of the most versatile colours for expressing different styles in interiors," enthuses Marianne

Shillingford, creative director at Dulux. "And if positivity, creativity and joy were colours, they would be shades of yellow.

"From deep complex mustard tones to baby chick pastels, yellow keeps surprising us with its rich complexity and ability to delight. If you like your yellow sharp and sweet, try our Sunny Savannah 6."

SUNSHINE PICKS: Florals and yellow work brilliantly together, as Mazarine wallpaper by Albany Festival, currently reduced to £17.50 from £25 a roll, Wallpaper Direct, ably demonstrates with red flowers on a bright yellow background.

Alternatively, another of the company's papers provides an easy way to pick up on the current geometric trend: Widenor Chevron Yellow wallpaper by Thibaut is £56 a roll.

If you're prepared to be bold, paint woodwork in a bright yellow shade, such as Crown Paints Tibetan Gold non-drip gloss, from £13.92 for 750ml, from B&Q and Homebase.

Let a sofa take centre stage by upholstering it in the fabulous yellow Cube velvet fabric, £32 a metre from Voyage Decoration. Embrace the colour in the bedroom with a Jonah bed, upholstered in a deep, yolk yellow, from £549 at Made.com.

MELLOW YELLOW

Tone down the effect - too much yellow can be garish - but still achieve a stylish impact by introducing pops of yellow in well-chosen pieces and accessories.

"If used in abundance, vibrant yellows can overtake a room, making it appear smaller than it is. Yellow is, after all, the colour of caution, so proceed with care when using it," advises Julie Yarwood at Housing Units.

"When choosing brighter shades of yellow, it's best to pair with neutral tones and greys, as this will help to balance out your colour palette. Using yellow as an accent colour is a

great way of injecting life into rooms, which with the ever-popular tonal neutral schemes can lack that 'special' something. Adding cushions, artwork or even yellow blooms can make a huge difference."

SUNSHINE PICKS: Show off lemon or glossy yellow touches to best effect in a room with a neutral colour scheme and furniture in pale creamy shades. The Calista furniture range from Housing Units, currently reduced, has sleek good looks and its soft white upholstery is made for this look. 3 Seater Chaise Sofa, £899 from £1299; 2 Seater Sofa, £499 from £799; Armchair, £349 from £499.



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The summer months are a great time for a big clean-up



Many householders use the warm summer months to carry out exterior work



A typical garden shed can be converted into various other uses



The warmer months are a perfect time to carry out larger paint jobs around the house and garden

Great time for a tidy and clean

WITH summer providing spells of warm sunny weather there is never a better time to get some seasonal home improvements done.

Hot, sunny days are the obvious time to do exterior repairs and painting, although painting in strong, direct sunlight and high temperatures isn't necessarily a good idea – it can affect the finish.

If your home's exterior walls are painted, a fresh coat or two will protect them ready for winter, and smarten them up.

If you've got time off at home and the weather's nice, tackling a big garden DIY project, such as building a deck or laying a patio, may be something to consider.

Perhaps it's time to turn your garden shed into something more than just somewhere to store your lawn mower and tools? A shed can be converted into useful living space, including a home office, studio, music or games room, gym, or playroom/den, as long as it's easily accessible from the house, is insulated and preferably has electricity.

Summer is also a great time to give your house

Property Advice

a good clean in time for the winter months. And it would appear that a good tidy and clean-up during the summer does not have to be a boring chore.

We might moan about housework, but according to a new survey, lots of us get down with the dirty, dancing while we gleam the grime.

Chemical-free cleaning product brand e-cloth has revealed that no fewer than 84 per cent of Brits get their groove on and have a good old dance while they're tidying up.

A total of 32 per cent are busting their moves to Happy by Pharrell Williams, while 29 per cent prefer shakin' it to Queen classic Another One Bites The Dust.

"It's great to see that the British public love to have a boogie while they clean their houses, and we certainly recommend it," says e-cloth spokesperson Laurence Smith.

"Our survey shows that while consumers are shifting away from traditional cleaning methods and opting for more natural and greener regimes using just water, they're still having fun while they clean, thanks to their favourite hits."



A tidy and clean during the summer will get your property ready for the winter



A clean-up can be a fun, according to a recent poll



Doing a bit of a tidy in the garden can be a social occasion

Property

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING



Cottages in village present an investment opportunity

1&2 Bwythyn Derw Cottages at Bwlch-y-Cibau comprise a highly desirable investment opportunity consisting of a pair of converted cottages, ideal for letting out on either short term or long term assured shorthold tenancies. The cottages are of stone elevation under pitched slated roofs having been converted approximately 10 years ago. They are for sale for £190,000 through Halls. For more details contact Halls on 01938 555552.

Detached bungalow comes with log cabin

An exceptionally well appointed and spacious detached bungalow, Hiraeth, Rectory Meadow, Llanymynech occupies a private position within walking distance of local facilities.

It is for sale through JJ Dell & Co at £310,000. With oil central heating and double glazing and a large plot, the home lies on the edge of the village and is ideally placed for commut-

ing. It has a porch, a reception hall, a living room with a feature fireplace with an electric fire, a dining kitchen with an integrated extractor, a hob, double oven, dishwasher, laminate flooring in the kitchen and carpet in the dining area.

There is also a utility room, WC, a garage/hobby room, an inner hall, three bedrooms (two with wardrobes) and a bathroom with

a white suite, a gravelled driveway into a cul-de-sac of three properties and a large parking and turning area. There is a front garden with a gravelled barbecue area, a log cabin with living room, kitchenette and WC with a decked seating area, south facing rear garden with a gazebo, shed and workshop. For further information contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437 or visit www.jjdell.co.uk



Lovely farmhouse has many outstanding features to offer

Woodhead Estates is privileged to offer Bryn Goleu, St Martins, to the sales market with its many outstanding benefits, not least of which being its quiet rural setting. Offers in the region of £539,950, at the heart of Bryn Goleu is a well-proportioned period farmhouse with many internal features as well as a lawned garden. There is land, predominantly laid to pasture, extending to approximately five acres, a range of outbuildings, as well as a two-storey red-brick barn converted to provide business accommodation. For more details contact Woodhead Estates on 01691 680044.



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OC5024

A wonderful opportunity to purchase a three bedroom Victorian SEMI DETACHED family home on Llangollen Canal and World Heritage Site also near to the A483 for those who commute. An ideal investment or first time purchase and must be viewed to be appreciated. Reception Hall, Living Room, Kitchen Dining Room, Rear Entrance Hall, Bathroom, First Floor Landing, Bedroom One, Bedroom Two, Bedroom Three, Front Garden, Courtyard Garden, Rear Garden leading to Canal.

Price: £120,000 T: 01691 670 320

NO CHAIN SUPERB DETACHED
The Hall, Llanfyllin



OC5037

Believed to date from the 15th Century with later additions. The Hall is a particularly handsome residence offering versatile and well proportioned accommodation yet retaining many original features. Grade II Listed and reputably visited by King Charles I in 1645. The Hall now provides an eight bedroom delightful family residence with great potential to satisfy a variety of requirements and set in delightful generously proportioned landscaped gardens with former barn currently used as a studio.

Price: £430,000 T: 01691 670 320

2 BEDROOM DETACHED
Hampton Fields, Oswestry



OC5036

A wonderful opportunity to purchase an immaculate detached bungalow with South facing garden. The property is conveniently positioned within walking distance to Oswestry Town Centre. Recently re-fitted with a new combination boiler and a new kitchen, this property must be viewed to be appreciated. Entrance Hall, Reception Hall, Lounge Dining Room, Kitchen, Bedroom One, Bedroom Two, Garden Room, Bathroom, Garage, Park Ing, Gardens.

Price: £177,950 T: 01691 670 320

NO CHAIN 3 BEDROOM DETACHED
Mount Quarry, Lianyngog



OC5045

A wonderful opportunity to purchase a detached three double bedroom cottage in the heart of the Tanat Valley. A superb family home or an ideal investment for those looking for a holiday retreat in the Welsh Countryside. The property is warmed by oil fired central heating and benefits from UPVC double glazing. Spacious open plan Living Dining Room, Kitchen, Study Area, Utility/Boot Room, Cloakroom, Three Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage, Parking, Gardens, Garden Store.

Price: £180,000 T: 01691 670 320

3 BEDROOMS
Glandwr, Llansantffraid



OC4075

This wonderful semi detached family home dates back to 1845. Offering an abundance of character and charm which complimented by its contemporary interiors. There are three spacious reception rooms, kitchen, utility, boot room and WC and on the first floor, three double bedrooms and family bathroom. The property does come with the benefit of a good size garden and country views. Living Room, Home Office, Pantry, WC, Cellar, Kitchen, Dining Room, Utility Room, Boot Room, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom. EPC Rating F

Price: £174,950 T: 01691 670 320

IDEAL FIRST TIME BUY
Llys Close, Oswestry



OC3969

An ideal first time or investment purchase. Covered Entrance Porch, Lounge with gas fire, Kitchen with fitted units and oven, First Floor Landing with store cupboard Double Bedroom with fitted wardrobe, Bathroom fitted with a three piece white suite, Car Parking, Garden, Garden Shed. The property benefits from double glazing and is situated in a pleasant cul de sac location. Current EPC E

Price: £79,950 T: 01691 670 320

NO CHAIN BUNGALOW
Brookfields, Weston Rhyn



OC4006

A wonderful opportunity to purchase a semi detached two bedroom bungalow situated in a pleasant and quiet residential area within a sought after village with an abundance of amenities and regular bus service. Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Side Hall, Utility Room/Store, Store Room, Bedroom One, Bedroom Two, Bathroom, Garden Warmed by gas fired central heating and benefitting from UPVC double glazing. EPC Rating D.

Price: £110,000 T: 01691 670 320

NO CHAIN DETACHED BUNGALOW
Maes Myllin, Llanfyllin



OC5014

This detached two bedroom bungalow is situated in a pleasant location within walking distance to Llanfyllin Town. The property offers spacious and well proportioned accommodation which comprises: Reception Hall, Kitchen Breakfast Room, Lounge Dining Room, Store Room, Bedroom One, Bedroom Two, Bathroom, Double Garage, Ample Parking, Gardens to Front, Side and Rear. EPC C.

Price: £210,000 T: 01691 670 320

HOUSE & ANNEXE
Plas Cerrig, Wern



OC3991

This extraordinary detached family home dates back to approx 1810. The property is complimented by a detached annexe and delightful gardens. Hall, Dining Room, Lounge, Sitting Room, Kitchen, Pantry, Utility, WC, Master Bedroom with Ensuite, Three Further Bed rooms, Bathroom. Annexe - Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom, Bedrooms. Garaging, Workshops, Store Rooms, Land scaped Gardens, Paddock, Parking. EPC Rating E.

Price: £499,950 T: 01691 670 320

4 BEDROOM DETACHED
Rhewl Lane, Gobowen



OC4097

Situated in a sought after cul de sac location within a popular village, this four bedroom detached family home offers spacious accommodation. Warmed by gas fired central heating and benefits from UPVC double glazing. Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility, Cloakroom, First Floor Landing, Master Bedroom with Ensuite, Three Further Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage, Gardens, Parking. EPC Rating D.

Price: £215,000 T: 01691 670 320

NO CHAIN GEORGIAN HOUSE
Liwyn Onn, Llansantffraid



OC5009

This handsome Grade II Listed Georgian house offers adaptable and spacious accommodation set over four floors. Although having undergone a scheme of renovation there is character and charm in each room. Offering Reception, Kitchen Dining Room, Living Room, Utility, Cloakroom, Master Bedroom, Bedroom Two with Ensuite, Bedroom Three with Ensuite, Bedroom Four with Ensuite, Bathroom, Garden, Parking. Warmed by oil fired central heating.

Price: £225,000 T: 01691 670 320

NO CHAIN 4 BEDROOM DETACHED
Rosslyn, Gwern-y-Brenin



OC3922

This stunning brand new family home has been designed to an exacting standard and is situated in a pleasant rural location with views of the open country side. Care and attention is reflected in the Eco-Friendliness, space, layout and finish. This timber frame property will be sold with the benefit of a 10 year warranty and must be viewed to be appreciated.

Price: Offers over £425,000

5 BEDROOM DETACHED
Blymhill Villa, Llyncllys



OC3941

This imposing 1930's detached FIVE bedroom family home offers immaculate and spacious accommodation which boasts original features in all rooms. South East Facing with views to the Heritage railway and countryside beyond, this property is warmed by oil fired central heating and benefits from UPVC double glazing throughout and must be viewed to be appreciated. With excellent commuter link and glorious countryside walks on door step the property. EPC Rating E.

Price: £329,950 T: 01691 670 320

NO CHAIN DETACHED HOUSE
The Birches, Dolywern



OC4091

Sitting proudly within its elevated plot in a rural location this four bedroom detached family home enjoys lovely views across the Ceiriog Valley and to the hills in the distance. The spacious accommodation is superbly presented throughout and comprises: Reception Hall, Cloakroom, Dining Room, Lounge, Snug, Kitchen, Utility Room, Master Bedroom with Ensuite, Three Further Bedrooms, Bathroom, Landscaped Gardens, Double Garage, Work Room. EPC Rating D.

Price: £349,950 T: 01691 670 320

5 BEDROOM DETACHED
The White House, Llwyn Y Go



OC4071

This detached character property is situated in a most idyllic rural position with large garden and double garage. Dating back to the 17th Century, extended to provide a most spacious and comfortable family home. Hall, WC, Shower Room, Kitchen Breakfast Room, Utility, Boot Room, Living Room, Snug, Dining Room, Home Office, Bedroom One, Bedroom Two, Bedroom Three, Bedroom Four, Bathroom, Bedroom Five/Nursery Double Garage, Large Gardens with Orchard.

Price: £395,000 T: 01691 670 320

NO CHAIN HOUSE WITH LAND
Liwyn-Y-Moelgau, Llanfihangel



OC4012

A wonderful opportunity to purchase a lovely farmhouse located within its own little idyll which is being sold with the benefit of detached outbuildings, large stone barn and 15 acres of land. Conservatory, Kitchen Breakfast Room, Utility, Shower Room, Sitting Room, Dining Room, Garden Room, Landing with Study Area, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom. Detached Workshop, Granary, Open Bay Hay Store and Barn, Large Barn, Paddocks, Pond, Woodland.

Price: £450,000 T: 01691 670 320



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Gobowen

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- An excellent opportunity to purchase a truly unique property
- Consisting of a spacious 3 bedroom house with an attached self contained 2 bedroom bungalow all set in a generous plot.
- The property should be of interest to purchasers looking for a self contained ground floor annex or for use as a B & B (which it has previously been used for)

High Fawr Avenue
Oswestry

£359,995

- An executive detached family home situated within a large corner plot
- Entrance Porch, Large Entrance Hall, Lounge with Conservatory off
- Dining Room, Study, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Utility, Cloakroom
- Four Double Beds (Master En-Suite Shower Room) & Luxury Bathroom
- Fully landscaped gardens, small stream & views over open fields
- Patio area and parking & Double garage. Security system
- Double glazing, Gas C/H, cavity wall insulation. EPC Rating D

Queen's Road
Oswestry

£360,000

- A superbly appointed Period Residence set in one of Oswestry's most desirable locations
- Spacious 3 bedroom house, 2 reception rooms and 2 bathrooms over 3 floors
- Entrance Hall, Cloaks, Lounge, Living Room, Dining Room
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room and Rear Hallway, Shower room
- The Cellars have been converted into spacious Guest Suite with En-Suite Shower Rm
- 4 further BedRooms (1 with En-Suite Shower Rm), Study & Family Bathrm
- Front & rear gardens, single garage & off-road parking. Gas C/H. EPC Rating F

School Lane
Gobowen

£184,995

- A deceptively spacious 4 Bedroom Link Detached Dormer Bungalow
- Spacious lounge, dining room, kitchen, 2 double bedrooms to a high standard
- Entrance Porch, Entrance Hall, Kitchen, Dining Room/Bed 3
- Bedroom 2, Bathroom, Lounge and 2 further First Floor Bedrooms
- Good plot with ample off road parking, garaging
- Private and well established rear garden
- Double glazing, Gas C/H and solar panels. EPC Rating C

NEW PRICE

Cherry Tree Drive
St Martins

£130,000

- A spacious 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached Property
- The property sits in a corner plot with open ground to the side
- The property has been maintained to a high standard
- Spacious lounge, kitchen/diner, study, bathroom
- 3 Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Good size corner plot with large garage and driveway
- D/G, Gas C/H, cavity wall and loft insulation. NO CHAIN

NEW PRICE

Breidden Close
Oswestry

£184,995

- A spacious 3 Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- Entrance Hall, Lounge/Dining Room, Kitchen
- Cloakroom, 3 Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Enclosed rear garden, paved patio and driveway
- Off-road parking, carport and detached garage
- Lawned garden to the front of the property
- Gas C/H and double glazing. EPC Rating F

Old Chirk Road
Oswestry

£199,995

- A well positioned 4 Bedroom Detached Family Property
- The property has been modernised throughout
- Entrance Lobby, Entrance Hall/Study, Lounge, Living Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Dining Room
- Utility, Ground Floor Bathroom, 4 BedRooms & Bathroom
- Good size gardens and large parking area to the rear
- uPVC double glazing and Gas C/H (where stated).

Meadowbrook Court
Gobowen

£68,750

- A very comfortable and spacious leasehold bungalow
- Entrance Hall, Double Bedroom, Bathroom/Wet Room
- Living/Dining room, Sun Conservatory and Kitchen with appliances.
- Double glazing, Economy 7 ducted ceiling and under floor electric C/H
- Charming courtyard garden, 24/7 hour audio call system
- Ready for immediate occupation. EPC Rating D

Station Road
Whittington

£199,995

- An immaculately presented and updated 3 Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- Situated close to the centre of the picturesque village of Whittington
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Conservatory, Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Cloaks, Utility, Study, 3 BedRooms and Family Bathroom
- Landscaped gardens overlooking orchards and playing fields
- Brand new gas boiler with Gas C/H, D/G, intruder alarm
- New soffits, cavity wall insulation and recently rewired. EPC Rating D

Cefn Coch
Llanrhaeadr

£375,000

- Truly idyllic country cottage
- Retaining a Host of Original Features
- Sun Rm, Dining Hall, Farmhouse Style Kitchen
- Utility, Ground Floor Shower Rm, Lounge
- 3 Beds (master en-suite WC) Family Bathrm
- Large Gardens, Parking, D/G/ Oil C/H. EPC Rating E

Oswestry

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Pant

£450,000

A substantial and truly individual detached 1920's family house with spacious and well-appointed accommodation. Complimented by a large garden which surrounds the house and incorporates a vegetable garden, decking, large lawns, ample parking space and a selection of mature trees. EPC: D

Welshpool: 01938 531006



Llangedwyn, Oswestry

£410,000

A large detached 4 bedroom country house, with an abundance of original features and very flexible accommodation, standing in about 10 acres of grounds. There are a range of outbuildings including a large steel frame barn, stables, garage and a mobile home which requires replacement or refurbishment. EPC Rating: B

Welshpool: 01938 531006



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Llanwddyn

£395,000

A detached stone house, situated in a rural location surrounded by splendid welsh countryside, with just under 6 acres of grounds in all and river frontage on the Afon Cownwy. A barn and mobile home are located within the grounds which are divided into 4 paddocks and a garden yard/parking area. EPC: E

Welshpool: 01938 531006



Dolgellau

£400,000

A detached 4 bedroom country cottage in a secluded position with a marvellous garden which includes a sleeping stone giant. The cottage is complimented by views of distant hills and a particularly attractive garden, which has a variety of different areas providing something for everyone. Viewing is highly recommended. EPC: G

Welshpool: 01938 531006

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Detached home in pleasant rural position

Julohn, 2 Bryngwilla, Rhyn Lane, St Martins, is a three bedroome detached house occupying a pleasant rural position with opportunity for further improvement.

The property is for sale through JJ Dell & Co, there is no chain and the price is £210,000.

Accommodation includes a reception hall, sitting room, living room, dining kitchen, three good sized bedrooms, bathroom and garaging and good sized garden.

Contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437 and 680212 for more details.

J.J. DELL & Co.



Rarely available retirement apartment on market

Rarely available, 59 Abraham Court is a two bedroom retirement apartment within walking distance of Oswestry. It is on the market through Town & Country for £119,000. This apartment is located on the second floor and comprises entrance hall, living room, kitchen, two bedrooms and a bathroom. Residents must be over the age of 60 years. The house manager can be contacted from various points in each apartment in the case of an emergency. For periods when the house manager is off duty there is a 24 hour emergency Careline system. Contact Town & Country on 01691 679631 for details.

TOWN & COUNTRY
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GUIDE PRICE £125,000

- Attractive Victorian End Terraced House
- Short Distance from Town Centre
- GFCH & PVC D/G
- Entrance Hall
- Sitting Room
- Living Room
- Kitchen And Cellar
- Three Bedrooms
- Front And Rear Gardens
- EPC Band - E
- JJD882

OSWESTRY



OFFERS OVER £124,950

- Victorian End Terrace House
- GFCH
- Two Reception Rooms
- Dining Kitchen
- Two Bedrooms And Loft Room
- Modern Bathroom
- Rear Garden
- Walking Distance Of Town & Woodsides School
- EPC Band - E
- JJD853

CHIRK



£119,950

- Modern House Ideal For FTB Or Investment
- GFCH & DG
- Lounge & Dining Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Two Bedrooms
- Attractive Garden
- Parking
- Open Rear Aspect
- Quiet Cul De Sac Location
- EPC Band - D
- NO CHAIN
- JJD871

OSWESTRY



£214,950

- Spacious Fully Modernised Nineteenth Century House
- GFCH & DG
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Dining Room/Sitting Room
- Four Bedrooms
- Bathrooms
- Workshop
- Ample Parking
- Large Store Shed
- Neighbouring shops and school
- EPC Band - E
- JJD857

ST. MARTINS



GUIDE PRICE £199,950

- Excellent four bed-family house
- GFCH & PVC D/G
- Two Reception Rooms
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Cloakroom
- Four Double Bedrooms
- Bathroom & En-Suite
- Large Garage & Parking
- Private Rear Garden And Patio
- Corner Plot
- EPC Band - D
- JJD864

PORTH-Y-WAEN



£274,500

- Exceptionally Well Appointed Country Property
- Central Heating & D/ Glazing
- 2 Good Sized Reception Rooms
- Breakfast Kitchen
- 3 Beds
- En-suite
- Mains Garage
- Double Garaging and Workshop
- Attractive Garden And Small Paddock
- EPC Band E
- JJD749

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Offers In The Region Of £310,000

- Exceptionally Well Appointed Detached Bungalow Occupying A Large Plot
- OFCH & PVC DG
- Living Room
- Dining Kitchen
- Cloakroom
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Garage
- Log Cabin
- Ample Car Parking And Car Port
- EPC Band - E
- JJD881

PANT



£420,000

- Individually designed highly appointed three bed detached house
- O/F C/H, D/G
- Lounge & Study
- Breakfast Kitchen & Utility
- Sun Room
- Bathroom & En-Suite
- Children's Play Room/ Fourth Bedroom
- Garage & Car Parking
- Extensive Views
- EPC Band C
- JJD782

LLANFECHAIN



GUIDE PRICE £400,000

- Kitchen
- Drawing Room
- Lounge & Sun Room
- Library & Study
- Cloakroom
- 5 Bedrooms/2 Baths
- Double Garaging
- Possibility to split accommodation
- EPC Band - C
- JJD833

GOBOWEN



£114,950

- Close Care Residential Bungalow
- Attractive Purpose Built Complex
- CH and DG
- Lounge/Dining Area
- Kitchen
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- JJD866

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- Short Walking Distance from Town Centre
- Entrance Hall
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- Dining Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Driveway
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- EPC Band - C
- Deposit - £505
- References required
- Agreement - £505 plus VAT
- EPC Band - G
- JJD027



Barn comes with range of farmbuildings and paddocks

Halls are delighted to offer Brynderwen Barn, outbuildings and paddocks for sale by private treaty. It is for sale for £165,000. The barn close to Abermule comprises a substantial two storey structure on a good level site. There is good access via a shared right of way off the council maintained roadway which then leads to gated access into the yard to the rear of the barn. The barn is well served by a range of farmbuildings set around the yard. These include a detached brick workshop with light and power laid on, together with a brick stable block with two looseboxes and a tack room. Contact Halls on 01938 555552 for more details.

Halls



Home is in the heart of picturesque valley

With no chain, Minfford is a deceptively spacious semi-detached house located in the heart of the Ceiriog Valley in the picturesque and sought after village of Llanarmon DC. It is on the market with Town & Country and offers are in excess of £135,000. The property boasts three bedrooms, modern bathroom and attractive kitchen with an extensive range of units and breakfast/eating area. The property has a light and spacious feel and takes in much of the surrounding countryside. For more details contact Town & Country on 01691 679631.

TOWN & COUNTRY
Tel: 01691 679631



Spacious home has been fully modernised

Unicorn Cottage, Middleton Road, Oswestry, is a spacious four bedrooned full modernised 19th century house with workshop and good sized garden.

It is for sale for £214,950 through JJ Dell and Co and there is no chain. The property benefits from gas fired central heating and double glazing. The accommodation comprises a rear porch, breakfast kitchen, dining room/sitting room, four bedrooms and bathroom. For more details on the property contact JJ Dell and Co on 01691 653437 and 680212.

J.J. DELL & Co.



Delightful bungalow is immaculately decorated

6 Maes Y Gof at Foel, Welshpool, is a delightful, detached modern dormer bungalow. It is for sale for £190,000 through Halls. The property is immaculately decorated throughout and benefits from spacious, adaptable accommodation comprising two reception rooms, well-fitted kitchen/breakfast room, three double bedrooms, one en-suite and a family bathroom. Outside the property has a large double garage, ample parking and turning space, an attractive garden currently designed for low maintenance with gravelled and paved areas with lovely expansive views of the open countryside and distant hills. For more information contact Halls on 01938 555552.

Halls

Spotting the difference

THE marjoram has at last burst fully into flower in the borders and that means it's time to talk insects.

Admittedly we discussed butterflies last week but if butterflies are the most impressively beautiful of our Saxon insects, then how about we look at the most impressively impressionistic this week.

But rather than flowering gardens in the Shropshire 'summer' of 2015, come back with me in time to Liverpool in 1848 and join Henry Walter Bates on the docks, awaiting his ship to South America.

You would have had company too because before long Bates was joined by his good friend, Alfred Russel Wallace, Darwin's great contemporary and together they boarded their charter and set sail to Brazil and the Amazon.

Once arrived, the two set to work collecting many specimens to, as Wallace put it, "gather facts towards solving the problem of the origin of species".

Many of these specimens were insects and very important too.

Wallace returned in 1852, but tragically lost his collection on the return voyage when his ship caught fire.

When Bates arrived home in 1859 after a full 11 years, he had sent back (via three ships to hedge his bets) over 14,712 species of which 8,000 were new to science.

Of the butterflies he was particularly fascinated and in conjunction with his careful observations in the rainforest, he developed the first scientific account of mimicry. We

ON THE WILDSIDE

with Ben Waddams



now call the imitation by a palatable species of an unpalatable or noxious species, Batesian Mimicry and one of the very best examples of it can be found in our gardens and parks here in Shropshire. The hoverfly.

Although these brightly-coloured insects look like bees or wasps, they are in fact flies and utterly harmless.

Mimicking an insect that stings is a good ploy. But bees and wasps also taste unpleasant to predators and so are left alone for that reason too.

There are about 250 different hoverfly species in Britain. You can generally see plenty of adults on flowers throughout spring, summer and autumn but if you thought their appearance as adults was striking enough, their larvae are clever and varied too. Some even resemble small slugs.

Hoverflies are generally well received in the garden. Many of the larvae eat pest species and can control 70 to 100% of the aphid population in their vicinity. Adults drink nectar and eat pollen and honeydew and because of this are very important pollinators, especially seeing as the bee population is in decline. The degree to which they contribute to pollination is also ironically poorly investigated but no doubt are important for carrots, onions and fruit trees. Some species of hoverfly feed on dead insects and help clean up the micro-environment.



A hoverfly below and a honey bee above, on Ben's marjoram

Be warned though (on reflection that should read 'bee' warned); I thought I knew my hoverflies and when I was about 10 picked up a species that resembled a honeybee to impress my younger sister.

I was gentle but the insect clearly felt threatened and brought its bottom round

to my finger. Hoverflies have the ability to mimic the stinging action of a bee, by pushing the tip of the abdomen into your fingers if they are caught and held.

As I watched, a thin black sting emerged and a second later so did the pain. I'd got it wrong – serves me right.

Powys named a top location for your retirement

POWYS has been named as one of the best places in the country to retire to – but Shropshire failed to make the top 20.

Mid Wales came third in a pensioner wellbeing index as the place to go to enjoy a long, healthy and safe retirement.

It was only pipped to the top by Devon and Dorset in the poll by Prudential, which used census data and results from the insurer's own retirement research.

Montgomeryshire MP Glyn Davies said he was not surprised, but believes the county should have come out on top.

He said: "I thought it should be number one. Everyone here knows it is the perfect place to retire, with beautiful scenery, relaxing activities and friendly people."

"I would recommend anybody who is thinking of retiring to Mid Wales to come and see for themselves how perfect it is."

"I am a little surprised Shropshire didn't make the list as it shares a number of qualities with us across the border."

Former Conservative Party leader William Hague is currently in the process of moving to the county after 26 years as an MP.

Mr Hague has bought the £2.5 million 10-bedroom Cyfronydd Hall, near Llanfair Caereinion, where he is moving with his wife Ffion.

However, Oswestry town councillor Paul Milner said he is shocked Shropshire did not make the list.

He said: "I love Shropshire and I love living here and will never move. I plan to spend all my days in the Oswestry area and can think of nowhere better."

"We have beautiful scenery, wonderful people and a whole host of exciting events and venues for people with time on their hands to visit."

"In Oswestry alone we have the fantastic food festival and the outstanding British Ironwork Centre, then there's more and more as you head across the county."

"I am sure Shropshire should be high on the list."

Previous analysis by Prudential found that Christchurch in Dorset is the UK's "retirement capital", with more pensioners per head of the population than anywhere else in the country.

Vince Smith Hughes, retirement income expert at Prudential, said that the recently-introduced pension freedoms may encourage more people to relocate to somewhere that better suits their needs when they retire.

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Match of the Day

10.20pm

Gary Lineker presents highlights of the opening Premier League matches of the season, including Chelsea v Swansea City at Stamford Bridge and Bournemouth v Aston Villa at Dean Court. Reigning champions Chelsea began the new campaign with a match at home to the Swans.



Proms Extra

7pm

Katie Derham presents another edition of the weekly magazine show, joined by Kiri Te Kanawa, Martin Barley and former Young Musician of the Year pianist Martin James Bartlett, who performs in the studio. Katie and her guests appraise last week's performances.



Catchphrase

5.15pm

Stephen Mulhern hosts the game show, asking three contestants to 'see it and say it' as they try to guess the familiar phrases hidden in animated clues. After the first elimination, the two remaining players battle to reach the Super Catchphrase round, where one of them could win £50,000.



Walking Through History: King John's Ruin – Peak District

8pm

As the 800th anniversary of the signing of Magna Carta in June 1215 approaches, Tony Robinson sets out to discover the real King John. In the midst of what are now cultivated fields, Tony finds the scant remains of Laxton Castle.



Cricket on 5

7pm

England v Australia. Mark Nicholas presents highlights of the third day's play in the Fourth Ashes Test at Trent Bridge, a venue at which the tourists had not tasted victory for 14 years. That Third Test back in 2001 was an extremely low-scoring affair. With commentary by Michael Vaughan.

BBC1

6.00 **Breakfast.**
10.00 **Saturday Kitchen Live.** James Martin is joined by chefs Mark Sergeant and Ross Shanahan for the cookery show, which also features BBC archive highlights and wine choices by expert Jane Parkinson.
11.30 **The Box.** With guest Alex Jones. (R)
12.00 **BBC News;** Weather.
12.10 **Football Focus.** Dan Walker and guests preview the opening round of Premier League fixtures.
12.50 **Saturday Sportsday.** A look ahead at the day's events.
1.00 **Bargain Hunt.** Teams compete at the Norfolk Royal Showground, where discoveries include a restored Triumph car and a pair of Grecian figurines. Presenter Tim Wonnacott visits Felbrigg Hall. (R)
2.00 **Homes Under the Hammer.** Developers Lucy Alexander and Martin Roberts visit a two-bedroom house in Staffordshire, a flat in London and a property in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne. (R)
3.00 **Escape to the Continent.** Alastair Appleton heads to the Abruzzo region of Italy with a West Yorkshire couple who are hoping to reconnect in retirement. They have £300,000 to fund their dream Italian move.
4.00 **Final Score.** Jason Mohammad presents a round-up of this afternoon's results from the Premier League, Football League and Scotland.
5.15 **Pointless Celebrities.** Period drama special, featuring Colin Baker and Simon Williams, Helen George and Pam Ferris, Martin Jarvis and Nerys Hughes, and Matthew Kelly and Christopher Timothy. (R)
6.05 **BBC News.**
6.15 **Midlands Today;** Weather.
6.25 **FILM:** *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom* (1984). The intrepid archaeologist travels to India, where he battles to retrieve sacred stones in the possession of an evil cult. Action adventure, starring Harrison Ford and Kate Capshaw.
8.15 **The National Lottery: Five Star Family Reunion.** A UK family and their long-lost overseas relatives must work together and answer questions to win a once-in-a-lifetime reunion in a five-star location. Includes the weekend draw.
9.10 **Casualty.** Dylan's father is admitted to the hospital after being involved in a road accident. Louis steals Tess's crucifix and Jacob reveals his romantic side.
10.00 **BBC News.**
10.20 **Match of the Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of the first Premier League matches of the season, including Chelsea v Swansea City at Stamford Bridge and Bournemouth v Aston Villa at Dean Court.
11.40 **FILM:** *Disturbia* (2007). A teenager under house arrest passes the time spying on his neighbours, and begins to suspect one of them is a serial killer. Thriller, starring Shia LaBeouf.
1.15 **Weather for the Week Ahead.**
1.25 **BBC News.**

BBC2

6.30 **FILM:** *Gunga Din* (1939). Action adventure, starring Clark Gable.
8.25 **FILM:** *Stick It* (2006). Sporting comedy, starring Missy Peregrym and Jeff Bridges.
10.00 **Animal Park.** Keepers perform a Caesarean section on a giraffe. (R)
11.00 **More Creatures Great and Small.** The lives and work of rural vets. (R)
11.30 **More Creatures Great and Small.** Vet Steve treats a dog which has been shot accidentally. (R)
12.00 **Great British Menu.** Chefs compete to cook at a banquet marking the centenary of the Women's Institute. (R)
12.30 **Great British Menu.** Jak O'Donnell, Jimmy Lee and Graham Campbell fight it out for the fish course. (R)
1.00 **Great British Menu.** Three Scottish chefs attempt to create the perfect main course. (R)
1.30 **Alex Polizzi: Chefs on Trial.** The last three candidates try to produce an authentic tandoori chicken. (R)
2.30 **Flog It!** The team visits Loughborough, Leicestershire. (R)
3.30 **Live Swimming: World Championships.** Day seven from Kazan Arena in Russia.
5.30 **Atlantic: The Wildest Ocean on Earth.** Documentary examining the natural forces underpinning life in the Atlantic. (R)
6.30 **Gardeners' World.** With the holiday season in full swing, Monty Don shares some timely tips on how to make sure gardens do not suffer while their owners are away. (R)
7.00 **Proms Extra.** Katie Derham is joined by Kiri Te Kanawa, Peter Maxwell Davies and Martin James Bartlett to appraise last week's performances, including the Late Night Sinatra Prom.
7.40 **Edwardian Farm.** Alex Langlands, Peter Ginn and Ruth Goodman put on a party when a paddle-steamer docks at the Morwellham Quay, bringing a group of tourists the Tamar Valley. (R)
8.40 **Dad's Army.** Mainwaring gives the platoon a lecture in communications and his men have an opportunity to put what they have learnt into action when an enemy aircraft ditches in a reservoir. (R)
9.10 **FILM:** *The Duchess* (2008). An 18th-century duchess enduring a troubled marriage is driven into the arms of a prominent politician. Fact-based drama, starring Keira Knightley, Ralph Fiennes and Dominic Cooper.
10.50 **The Many Faces of Helen Mirren.** A profile of the actress, who became a household name through her portrayal of DCI Jane Tennison in Prime Suspect and won an Oscar for playing Elizabeth II in The Queen. (R)
11.55 **FILM:** *Last Orders* (2001). Four men visit Margate to scatter a friend's ashes and reminisce about their shared experiences over the last six decades. Drama, with Michael Caine, Bob Hoskins and Tom Courtenay.
1.35 **FILM:** *Brighton Rock* (2010). Crime drama, starring Sam Riley.
3.20 **This Is BBC2.**

ITV

6.00 **CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show!** 6.25 Pat & Stan 6.35 Dino Dan 6.45 Dino Dan 7.00 **Canimals** 7.15 Sooty 7.30 Super 4 7.45 Fish Hooks 8.00 **Young Justice: Invasion**
8.25 **ITV News.**
8.30 **Weekend.** With entertainers Brian Conley, Duncan James and J.B. Gill.
9.25 **Murder, She Wrote.** A jazz musician is murdered. (R)
10.20 **The Jeremy Kyle Show.** Guests air their differences. (R)
11.20 **The Jeremy Kyle Show.** The host invites guests to air their differences over family and relationship issues, and provides them with his own brand of no-nonsense advice. (R)
12.25 **ITV News and Weather;** Weather.
12.30 **The Jeremy Kyle Show.** The host invites guests to air their differences over family and relationship issues, and provides them with his own brand of no-nonsense advice. (R)
1.35 **Tipping Point.** Quiz show, hosted by Ben Shephard. (R)
2.35 **Celebrity Squares.** Guests include Paddy McGuinness, Louis Smith and Michelle Keegan. (R)
3.20 **Midsomer Murders.** Barnaby and Scott investigate the murder of an undertaker in Fletcher's Cross, where residents are divided over a spiritualist church that could hold the clue to the case. (R)
5.15 **Catchphrase.** Guessing game, hosted by Stephen Mulhern. (R)
6.00 **ITV News Central;** Weather.
6.15 **ITV News and Weather.**
6.30 **You've Been Framed!** Harry Hill narrates a comical selection of viewers' videos, featuring a squirrel stealing an iPhone and a fox attacking a golfer. (R)
7.00 **Keep It in the Family.** New series. Bradley Walsh hosts the game show in which families compete in a series of rounds to win prizes with celebrities' help. This week kids perform from a musical.
8.00 **The Cube: Celebrity Special.** Comedians Rob Beckett and Rufus Hound take on The Cube in an attempt to win a jackpot of £250,000 for charity. Last in the series.
9.00 **FILM:** *The Bourne Identity* (2002). An amnesiac man pulled from the sea by the crew of a fishing boat is targeted by assassins as he tries to discover who he is. Thriller, starring Matt Damon and Franka Potente.
11.10 **ITV News and Weather;** Weather.
11.25 **The Chase.** Bradley Walsh presents as four contestants answer general knowledge questions and work as a team to take on ruthless quiz genius the Chaser and secure a cash prize. (R)
12.20 **Jackpot247.** Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
3.00 **Ejector Seat.** Quiz show, hosted by Andi Peters. Contestants try to prevent their seats edging backwards toward ejection point, with the last person left untoppled competing for a £10,000 jackpot. (R)

Channel 4

6.15 **How I Met Your Mother.** (R)
6.40 **Tri Liverpool.** Action from the second round of the British Triathlon Super Series.
7.35 **FIM Superbike World Championship.**
8.00 **The Morning Line.** Nick Luck and guests look ahead to the Shergar Cup.
9.00 **Fraser.** Niles receives an exciting proposal from Maris. (R)
9.30 **Fraser.** A fellow customer claims Fraser's favourite table at Cafe Nervosa. (R)
10.00 **The Big Bang Theory.** (R)
10.30 **The Big Bang Theory.** (R)
10.55 **The Big Bang Theory.** (R)
11.20 **The Big Bang Theory.** (R)
11.45 **The Simpsons.** (R)
12.15 **The Simpsons.** Bart and Lisa co-host a kids' news programme. (R)
12.50 **The Simpsons.** With the guest voices of U2 and Steve Martin. (R)
1.20 **Rude(ish) Tube.** Amusing internet videos, featuring a loud burper.
1.50 **Channel 4 Racing.** Live coverage from Ascot, Haydock Park and Newmarket.
4.15 **Come Dine with Me.** A student loans manager hosts the first dinner party in Darlington. (R)
4.45 **Come Dine with Me.** Cattle farmer Mark hosts the second night in Darlington. (R)
5.15 **Come Dine with Me.** Upmarket farmer Yvonne hosts the third dinner party in Darlington, Co Durham. (R)
5.45 **Come Dine with Me.** The fourth night of the competition in Darlington, Co Durham. (R)
6.15 **Come Dine with Me.** On the final night in Darlington, Co Durham, Adua plans to win over her guests with genuine Italian cuisine followed by a mysterious tiramisu, which is not to everyone's liking. (R)
6.40 **Channel 4 News.**
7.00 **Homes by the Sea.** Charlie Luxton explores coastal properties in Northumberland, including Craster Tower – an 18th-century mansion – and a transformed farmstead near Bamburgh.
8.00 **Walking Through History: King John's Ruin – Peak District.** On a walk across the medieval monarch's stamping grounds of Sherwood Forest and the Peak District, Tony Robinson discovers King John was a man plagued by critics. (R)
9.00 **FILM:** *The A-Team* (2010). Four soldiers jailed for a crime they did not commit escape from prison and track down the culprit. Action adventure based on the TV series, with Liam Neeson and Bradley Cooper.
11.25 **FILM:** *The Fighter* (2010). Fact-based drama following boxer Micky Ward's rise to world championship status, with the aid of his drug-addicted brother. With Mark Wahlberg and an Oscar-winning Christian Bale.
1.30 **The Last Leg.** (R)
2.25 **Hollyoaks.** (R)
4.30 **You Deserve This House.** (R)
5.25 **Draw It!** (R)
5.50 **How I Met Your Mother.** (R)

Channel 5

6.00 **Milkshake!** *Peppa Pig* 6.05 *Bananas in Pyjamas* 6.20 *Pip Ahoy!* 6.30 *The Men Show* 6.40 *Chloe's Closet* 6.55 *Make Way for Noddy* 7.05 *Paw Patrol* 7.20 *Little Princess* 7.35 *Wanda and the Alien* 7.50 *Zack and Quack* 8.05 *Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom* 8.20 *Jelly Jamm* 8.40 *LazyTown* 9.05 *Dora and Friends*
9.35 **Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.** April is kidnapped by the Purple Dragon gang. (R)
10.10 **Cowboy Builders.** The presenters revisit a mother and daughter in Camberley, Surrey. (R)
11.00 **Cowboy Builders.** A house near Newcastle-upon-Tyne with more than 100 faults. (R)
11.55 **Cowboy Builders.** Dominic Littlewood and Melinda Messenger revisit a couple from Guildford, Surrey. (R)
12.55 **FILM:** *Cahill, US Marshal* (1973). Western, starring John Wayne.
2.55 **FILM:** *Rio Lobo* (1970). Howard Hawks' Western, with John Wayne and Jorge Rivero.
5.05 **The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door.** Two neighbours who record each other's every move on CCTV. (R)
6.05 **Can't Pay? Benefits Special.** A special edition of the debt-collecting documentary, following High Court Enforcement agents as they recover homes, goods and cash from benefits claimants. (R)
7.00 **Cricket on 5.** England v Australia. Highlights of the third day's play in the Fourth Ashes Test at Trent Bridge, a venue at which the tourists had not tasted victory for 14 years.
7.55 **5 News Weekend.**
8.00 **Killer Landslides.** Exploring natural disasters and some of the biggest land slips ever recorded, including the deadly landslide in Oso, Washington in March 2014 which slammed into the neighbourhood.
9.00 **Football League Tonight.** New series. Kelly Cates and George Riley present highlights of the weekend's games, including Sheffield Wednesday v Bristol City and Leeds United v Burnley in the Championship.
10.25 **The Best of Bad TV.** The series revisiting spectacular small-screen gaffes continues with a look at the on-air catastrophes of the 1990s, including the ill-fated Nazi sitcom *Heil Honey, I'm Home!* (R)
11.50 **Access.** Showbiz news and gossip. (R)
12.00 **SuperCasino.** Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
3.10 **Transporter: The Series.** Frank tries to redeem the reputation of his former CIA instructor.
4.00 **Police Interceptors.** The helicopter crew is called out to rescue a woman trapped by rising water. (R)
4.50 **Make It Big.** The team races to sell more tickets. (R)
5.20 **Make It Big.** The big day arrives. (R)
5.45 **Angels of Jarm.** Virgil gets the blame for breaking a vase. (R)

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Countryfile
7pm

John Craven visits Llandudno, to see what has made it a beloved British holiday destination for more than a century. He meets a former farmer who is restoring the town's Victorian pier, talks to conservationists on the hunt for a rare butterfly and visits the UK's oldest Punch and Judy show.


The Javone Prince Show
9.45pm

The PhoneShop and Horrible Histories actor pokes fun at some of the more ridiculous elements of modern life via a selection of stand-up performances, comedy sketches and music. Including a Real Talk report on Britain's latest street gang and the Feisty Girls continuing their search for a job.


Midsomer Murders
8pm

When a pub landlady is crushed to death by a giant box during a magic show organised by famous illusionist Gideon Latimer, pathologist Kate discovers the cables had been deliberately sabotaged. Evangelising curate Andrew Maplin claims the tragedy is God's vengeance.


Experimental
8pm

Tim Shaw and Buddy Munro experiment with water skiing behind a ferry, and trying to avoid the vessel's dangerously large wake. They meet the star of an internet video who filmed himself holding onto a high pressure hose. Plus, in Munich the duo explore the game of Racing the Tube.


Police Interceptors Unleashed with Vinnie Jones
8pm

Vinnie Jones introduces clips of exciting police chases, as elite pursuit units crack down on law-breakers on the highways and byways of Britain. Mac pulls over a car and finds a box packed with cannabis and officers discover a lock-up for stolen vehicles.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast.
7.40 **Match of the Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of the first Premier League matches of the season, including Chelsea v Swansea City at Stamford Bridge and Bournemouth v Aston Villa at Dean Court. (R)

9.00 **BBC News.**
10.00 **Sunday Morning Live.** Sian Williams presents a topical debate covering religious, moral and ethical issues, with guest panellists and contributions from viewers.

11.00 **Homes Under the Hammer.** Lucy Alexander and Martin Roberts explore a unique detached property in Staffordshire, a semi-detached house in Essex and a bungalow in Cumbria before they go up for auction. (R)

12.00 **Bargain Hunt.** Four teams test their antiques knowledge in Corby, Northamptonshire. (R)

1.00 **BBC News; Weather.**
1.15 **Flog It!** From Wimborne in Wiltshire. (R)

2.00 **Escape to the Continent.** Nicki Chapman helps a couple find a home with land in Normandy. Last in the series.

3.00 **Animal Odd Couples.** Part one of two. Friendships between animals of different species. (R)

4.00 **The Great British Bake Off.** Twelve contestants battle it out to be named Britain's best amateur baker. (R)

5.00 **Songs of Praise.** Marking the 70th anniversary of VJ Day.

5.35 **Earth's Natural Wonders: Living on the Edge.** Part one of two. Some of the most inhospitable places on the planet. (R)

6.35 **BBC News.**
6.50 **Midlands Today; Weather.**
7.00 **Countryfile.** John Craven visits Llandudno to meet the former farmer who is restoring the town's Victorian pier. Plus, a look back at some of the best summer holiday ideas featured on the show. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

8.00 **Fake or Fortune?** Fiona Bruce and Philip Mould try to prove a painting is by modern master Marc Chagall, travelling to Belarus and Los Angeles in their search for clues. (R)

9.00 **Partners in Crime.** Part three of three. Tommy is forced to steal a secret file or his son will be killed. The couple discover evidence that will prove Brown's identity, but it is taken from them.

10.00 **BBC News.**
10.20 **Midlands Today; Weather.**
10.30 **Match of the Day 2.** Mark Chapman presents highlights of today's games, which were Arsenal v West Ham United, Newcastle United v Southampton and Stoke City v Liverpool.

11.40 **FILM: The Lookout (2007).** A janitor suffering from brain damage falls under the influence of a gang of criminals who are planning a bank robbery. Drama, starring Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Jeff Daniels.

1.15 **Weather for the Week Ahead.**

BBC2

6.00 **Big Dreams Small Spaces.** (R)
7.00 **The Instant Gardener.** (R)
7.45 **Countryfile.** (R)
8.45 **Gardeners' World.** (R)
9.15 **The Beechgrove Garden.**
9.45 **Saturday Kitchen Best Bites.**
11.15 **Great British Menu.** (R)
11.45 **Great British Menu.** (R)
12.15 **MOTD2 Extra.** With Mark Chapman and the Match of the Day team.

1.00 **FILM: A Distant Trumpet (1964).** Western, starring Troy Donahue.

2.55 **Two Tribes.** Quiz, hosted by Richard Osman.

3.25 **Live Swimming: World Championships.** Day eight from Kazan Arena in Russia.

5.30 **The Olympic Journey: How Far, How Fast?** Gabby Logan investigates the possible limitations of human athletes.

6.00 The four semi-finalists create styles inspired by nature, before they all take part in the Eliminator and have to carry out their first haircut – an A-line bob. (R)

6.30 Hair. Three competitors take part in the grand final. Last in the series. (R)

7.00 **Locomotion: Dan Snow's History of Railways.** The historian examines how the expansion of the railways influenced working conditions, proved a valuable global export and even changed the way war was waged. Last in the series. (R)

8.00 **Dragons' Den.** A technology entrepreneur brings a sports car into the studio to demonstrate a security app, while a pair of hoteliers and a luxury chocolate company seek investment.

9.00 **Odyssey.** News of Frank's attack on Shakir Khan hits Odelle and Aslam hard, while Bob edges ever closer to discovering the truth and Senator Darnell puts pressure on Harrison.

9.45 **The Javone Prince Show.** More stand-up comedy and sketches, including a Real Talk report on Britain's latest street gang. Plus, Javone finds out what Omar really thinks of him. Last in the series.

10.15 **Family Guy.** Peter, Joe, Cleveland and Quagmire help throw Jesus an important birthday party. Animation following the misadventures of America's disaster-prone Griffin family.

10.35 **Family Guy.** Brian's estranged son Dylan, now a teen reality TV star, turns up in Quahog, while a hunting accident creates a rift between Peter and Quagmire.

11.00 **Family Guy.** Peter forms a relationship with Evelyn, an elderly friend of his late mother. Meanwhile, Stewie is distraught to experience a death in the family for the first time.

11.20 **FILM: Up There (2012).** Premiere. A spirit charged with escorting the recently deceased to the afterlife ends up losing a soul somewhere in a seaside town. Comic fantasy, with Burn Gorman and Kate O'Flynn.

12.35 **FILM: Deceived (1991).** Psychological thriller, starring Goldie Hawn. Sign Zone: *Countryfile.* (R)

2.20 **ITV News Central: Weather.**

ITV

6.00 **CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show!** 6.25 Pat & Stan 6.35 Dino Dan **6.45** Dino Dan 7.00 **Animals 7.15** Sooty 7.30 Super 4 **7.45** Fish Hooks **8.00** Young Justice: Invasion

8.25 **ITV News.**
8.30 **Weekend.** With Wendi Peters, Mark Durden-Smith and Sarah Harding.

9.25 **Murder, She Wrote.** Jessica's cruise with her niece is disrupted by terrifying threats. (R)

10.20 **The Jeremy Kyle Show.** Guests air their differences. (R)

11.25 **The Jeremy Kyle Show.** Guests air their differences. (R)

12.25 **ITV News and Weather;** Weather.

12.35 **Love Your Garden.** Alan Titchmarsh designs a vintage-style garden for two pensioners in Somerset. (R)

1.35 **FILM: Columbo: Now You See Him (1976).** Detective drama, starring Peter Falk.

3.25 **FILM: Never Say Never Again (1983).** James Bond adventure, starring Sean Connery.

6.00 **Off Their Rockers.** More fearless senior citizens play pranks on the public, including one OAP who attempts escapology for the first time – while another fails his Zimmer-frame walking test. (R)

6.30 **ITV News Central:** Weather.

6.45 **ITV News and Weather.**

7.00 **Nature Nuts with Julian Clary.** Julian helps a Yorkshire artist to capture a kestrel on film, looks for pine martens in the Scottish highlands, and meets a man on the lookout for baby beavers.

8.00 **Midsomer Murders.** Barnaby and Nelson uncover conflict between the local church and pagan traditions after a famous illusionist's show takes a tragic turn. Neil Dudgeon stars in the murder mystery. (R)

10.00 **ITV News and Weather;** Weather.

10.15 **The Nation's Favourite 80s Number One.** Looking at the 1980s – a defining decade in both pop and fashion. Features interviews with 80s icons such as Spandau Ballet and Madness. Zoe Ball narrates. (R)

11.45 **Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Neil Morrissey.** The actor most associated with his comic role as the happy-go-lucky joker Tony in *Men Behaving Badly* discusses some revealing topics in Piers Morgan's hotseat. (R)

12.40 **Jackpot247.** Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.

3.00 **Motorsport UK.** Action from Croft in North Yorkshire, featuring the latest races in the Ginetta GT4 Supercup and the Renault UK Clio Cup. Commentary by Richard John Neil.

3.50 **British Superbike Championship Highlights.** Action from Thruxton.

4.40 **ITV Nightscreen.** Text-based information service.

5.05 **The Jeremy Kyle Show.** The host invites guests to air their differences over family and relationship issues. (R)

Channel 4

6.15 **How I Met Your Mother.** Ted walks out of his mother's wedding. (R)

6.35 **Everybody Loves Raymond.** Debra joins Ray on the golf course. (R)

7.00 **British GT.** Action from the sixth round of the season at Brands Hatch.

7.30 **Armoy Road Races.** Action from the motorcycle racing event in Armoy, Co. Antrim.

8.30 **Frasier.** Martin beats Frasier at chess. (R)

9.00 **Frasier.** The Crane brothers clash. (R)

9.30 **Sunday Brunch.** With Chris Boardman, Dick and Dom and Lianne La Havas.

12.30 **Amazing Spaces Shed of the Year 2015.** George Clarke presents this year's contest. (R)

1.30 **The Simpsons.** Lisa babysits Bart. (R)

2.00 **The Simpsons.** Bart catches Principal Skinner in a compromising situation. (R)

2.30 **The Simpsons.** The family moves to another town. (R)

3.00 **The Simpsons.** Marge becomes a church volunteer. (R)

3.25 **Phil Spencer: Secret Agent.** Phil Spencer seeks buyers for two shabby semis in the north of England. (R)

4.30 **Location, Location, Location.** House-hunting in west London. (R)

5.35 **A Place in the Sun: Home or Away.** Wakefield or Valencia. Last in the series.

6.30 **Channel 4 News.**

7.00 **The Dambusters: Great Escape: Secret History.** The story of the RAF's successful mission to sink the German battleship Tirpitz in November 1944, with eyewitness accounts from surviving crew, fighter pilots and sailors. (R)

8.00 **Experimental.** Tim Shaw and Buddy Munro experiment with water skiing behind a ferry, trying to outrace an underground train and attempting to keep hold of a high pressure hose. (R)

9.00 **FILM: Life of Pi (2012).** Premiere. A man recounts the story of how he survived adrift at sea following a shipwreck, his only companion a ferocious tiger. Adventure, starring Suraj Sharma and Irrfan Khan.

11.30 **FILM: Broken City (2013).** A New York private eye hired to find out if the mayor's wife is having an affair discovers a web of political corruption. Crime thriller, with Mark Wahlberg and Russell Crowe.

1.25 **Channel 4 Comedy Gala 2015: Best Bits.** Further highlights of the concert. (R)

2.10 **Come Dine with Me.**

2.35 **Come Dine with Me.** Huw Jones hosts the second dinner party in Cardiff. (R)

3.05 **Come Dine with Me.** Emma Nurse hosts Cardiff's third dinner party. (R)

3.35 **Come Dine with Me.** Gina Goddard-Bell hosts the fourth dinner party in Cardiff. (R)

4.05 **Come Dine with Me.** (R)

4.30 **Double Your House for Half the Money.** Helping homeowners in Kent and Dorset. (R)

5.30 **Kirstie's Vintage Gems.** (R)

5.35 **Draw It!** (R)

Channel 5

6.00 **Milkshake!** Peppa Pig 6.05 **Bananas in Pyjamas 6.20** Pip Ahoy! 6.30 **The Mr Men Show 6.40** Chloe's Closet 6.55 **Make Way for Noddy 7.05** Paw Patrol 7.20 **Little Princess 7.35** Wanda and the Alien 7.45 **Zack and Quack 8.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom 8.15 **Jelly Jamm 8.35** LazyTown 9.00 **Dora and Friends**

9.30 **Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.** The brothers travel to another dimension. (R)

10.05 **Football League Tonight.** Highlights and all the goals from the Championship, League One and League Two. (R)

11.35 **Police Interceptors.** Sgt Jon Moon and his police dog Kanto are confronted by a thief wielding a knife. (R)

12.30 **Police Interceptors.** Officers deal with a rowdy reveller on New Year's Eve. (R)

1.30 **FILM: Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs (2009).** Animated comedy, with the voice of Bill Hader.

3.10 **FILM: Getting Even with Dad (1994).** Family comedy, starring Macaulay Culkin and Ted Danson.

5.20 **FILM: Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (2011).** Comedy sequel, starring Jason Lee.

6.55 **5 News Weekend.**
7.00 **Cricket on 5.** England v Australia. Action from the fourth day of the Fourth Ashes Test at Trent Bridge in Nottingham.

8.00 **Police Interceptors Unleashed with Vinnie Jones.** Mac pulls over a car and finds a box packed with cannabis, officers discover a lock-up for stolen vehicles and a thief rewrites the rules of the road. (R)

9.00 **FILM: Takers (2010).** Premiere. Six bank robbers plan one last heist, but a determined police officer is closing in on them. Crime thriller, starring Paul Walker, Matt Dillon and Idris Elba.

11.10 **FILM: The Losers (2010).** Elite soldiers are betrayed and left for dead by their CIA employers, but return to seek revenge. Action adventure, starring Jeffrey Dean Morgan, Zoe Saldana and Chris Evans.

1.00 **SuperCasino.** Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.

3.10 **Under the Dome.** Big Jim is forced by Dr Martin to try to trick Christine into giving away information about her intentions, while Joe and Norrie question the town's new rules. (R)

4.00 **House Doctor.** Ann Maurice works her magic on an arty garden flat in the Kensal Green area of west London, where the owners are finding it difficult to attract a buyer. (R)

4.25 **Make It Big.** The charity evening gets underway. (R)

4.50 **Make It Big.** The teenagers arrive at their new office and set about deciding who will be team leader. (R)

5.20 **Make It Big.** The office furniture gets broken. (R)

5.45 **Angels of Jarm.** Wendy is scared of Fatima's mum. (R)

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Cinema listings

MAGGIE (15)



Arnie and zombies – 8/10 Wade Vogel (Schwarzenegger) spends two weeks searching for missing daughter Maggie in cities overrun with a zombie virus. Wade finds her and takes her home to the family ranch to enjoy what little time they have left. As the girl's predatory instincts take hold, step-mother Caroline urges Wade to make the ultimate sacrifice. Schwarzenegger is at his best.

ANT-MAN (12A)



Entertainment – 8/10 Cat burglar Scott Lang (Paul Rudd) is in trouble with the law when inventor Hank Pym (Michael Douglas) offers him a way out if he agrees to don a superhero outfit, which shrinks the wearer at the touch of a button. Scott masters the suit and learns to mind-control four species of ants. Humans and insects take on Hank's former protégé, Darren Cross.

SELF/LESS (12A)



Identity crisis – 5/10 Businessman Damian Hale (Sir Ben Kingsley) has less than six months to live so contacts Phoenix Biogenic which claims it can transplant the consciousness of wealthy patrons into a healthy body that has been grown in the laboratory. Damian stages his death and reawakens as a thirty-something (Ryan Reynolds). But is the host body all that it was claimed to be?

TRUE STORY (15)



Sticking to the facts – 8/10 Disgraced reporter Michael Finkel visits Christian Longo, a man who is wanted for the murder of his wife and three children, in a Mexico prison after it transpires the accused is using Finkel's name. Finkel becomes dangerously fascinated, sensing a chance at redemption if he can exploit his privileged access to Christian and write a best-selling book.

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An emotional journey

Review by Damon Smith

DESPITE gargantuan advances in medical science, we still don't fully understand the complexities of the human brain: its ability to process vast quantities of information, solve problems and store memories.

Pixar Animation Studios, the wizards who conjured the Toy Story trilogy, contemplate the vagaries of neuropsychology with this visually stunning and emotionally rich comedy, which unfolds predominantly inside the head of a little girl.

This high-brow concept doesn't seem like the most accessible subject matter for a family-oriented computer animation.

But directors Pete Docter and Ronaldo Del Carmen elegantly tilt their film at the windmills of the mind and deliver a hilarious, heartfelt and ultimately life-affirming adventure that celebrates childhood innocence, family unity and the power of the human spirit to overcome adversity.

Laughter and tears abound, as well as cute visual gags, ensuring parents will be repeatedly dabbing their eyes while children whoop and gurgle with glee at the slapstick and rollicking action sequences.

A mother (voiced by Diane Lane) and father (Kyle MacLachlan) welcome a baby girl called Riley (Kaitlyn Dias) into the world.

From the moment she opens her eyes, Riley's mood is shaped by five coloured emotions – golden Joy (Amy Poehler), blue Sadness (Phyllis Smith), purple Fear (Bill Hader), red Anger (Lewis Black) and green



Inside Out, the new film from the Disney Pixar Animation Studios, ventures into the world of neuropsychology

Disgust (Mindy Kaling) – which bicker behind a large control desk laden with buttons and levers. Joy is the dominant emotion in Headquarters and she safeguards Riley's memories, which are stored as glowing orbs, tinged with the colour of the emotion that prevailed at the time.

When Riley turns 11, her parents relocate from Minnesota to San Francisco. Traumatic events such as a first day at a new school

nudge Sadness to the fore. Following an altercation, sworn rivals Joy and Sadness are expelled from Headquarters and find themselves stranded in the labyrinth of Riley's long-term memories.

Aided by Riley's imaginary friend Bing Bong (Richard Kind), Joy and Sadness blaze a haphazard trail on the chugging train of thought back to Fear, Anger and Disgust, who have been left in charge of

Headquarters, with disastrous consequences. Inside Out is Pixar's best film since WALL-E, Up and Toy Story 3.

Vocal performances are note perfect, led by Poehler's exuberant portrayal of Joy and Smith's sincere embodiment of Sadness, who tugs heartstrings as the film reaches its exquisite conclusion. Joy and Sadness shared blissful control of my mind throughout.

Book reviews

WILDLIFE IN THE MARCHES

By Mark Lawley

This is a big and magnificent book in glossy full colour in which Lawley, who lives in Ludlow, makes many thought-provoking observations.

The main one is how we actually know about the living creatures of the borderlands landscape of Shropshire, Herefordshire and into Mid Wales.

But this is not just a book about wildlife, but about humans, the men and women of the past whose pastime was to study the living world. These amateurs pushed forward the boundaries of knowledge. A vast



amount remains to be discovered.

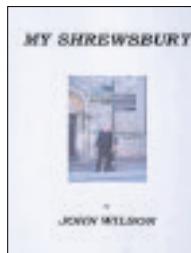
It is available on Amazon or from Lawley for £34.50 payable to 'Mark Lawley' at 12A Castleview Terrace, Ludlow SY8 2NG.

By Toby Neal

MY SHREWSBURY

By John Wilson

John Wilson came to Shrewsbury at the age of 21 and fell in love with the place. He has researched the buildings and places of the county town over many years compiling a large body of work which people encouraged him to publish. And here it is. The book is organised as a number of walks in the town in which he describes the buildings and the stories behind them. Did you know, for instance, that there is a 16th century building in Shrewsbury which has a carving of both Margaret Thatcher and Mick Jagger? Strange – but true. He also highlights some



buildings and places which even longstanding Shrewsbury residents may not know are there. Available at the Bear Steps at Shrewsbury, or contact John on 01743 364337. Price is £6.50. By John Mountford

I KNOW I AM RUDE BUT IT IS FUN

By Nigel Cawthorne
Published by Gibson Square

These are the words and wisdom of Prince Philip, always notoriously forthright. This affectionate compilation of sayings of a man who has dutifully accepted his role at the Queen's side is also enlightening. Some of his opinions will raise an eyebrow. In 1988 he said: "In the event that I am reincarnated, I would like to return as a deadly virus, to contribute something to solving overpopulation."

My favourite is where an official asked: "What was your flight like, Your Royal Highness?"



Philip: "Have you ever flown in a plane?"

Official: "Oh yes sir, many times." Philip: "Well, it was just like that."

By Florence Mona Procter



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RESTAURANT & TAKE AWAY

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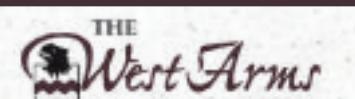


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Entertainment

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Craig and Charlie Reid take a walk on the shore at Leith, Edinburgh



The Proclaimers – headlining this year's Shrewsbury Flower Show

Brothers still love the joy of playing live

THE last time The Proclaimers visited Shrewsbury they were in for a shock. As identical twin brothers Charlie and Craig Reid took to the stage at Shrewsbury Folk Festival they were greeted by a sea of faces – of Charlie and Craig Reid faces, to be precise.

"Aye," says Craig. "We got on the stage and the first two or three rows were all wearing Proclaimers masks. It was like we were looking back at ourselves while we were playing. It was very off-putting for us."

The Proclaimers will headline this year's Shrewsbury Flower Show on August 15, having previously played the town on three or four occasions.

"We like Shrewsbury. The crowds are always warm. We played the folk festival once or twice and we've done other gigs too. It's very good, it's always great."

Craig is looking forward to the fact that the flower show isn't a gig for diehard fans.

"It's great if you get to play at things that are just an event," he says. "The people in the audience are not just there to see you. I love it when it's like that, it happens at festivals too. We get to play to people who've not seen us before, as well as some of the fans."

"I guess that takes a little of the pressure off, though you never completely relax. But an open air summer thing is always good. Everyone is out for a good time. This summer we've been playing every single weekend and right through from end of May to the end of September. Then we're having two or three weeks off before then it's the big UK tour in October."

Craig and Charlie may be best known for their earliest hits, including I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles), Letter From America and the hit albums Sunshine On Leith and Hit The Highway. But such pinnacles obscure a pattern of continual and sustained success. As recently as 2007, The Proclaimers enjoyed a number 13 hit on the album charts with Life With You, while they've subsequently

SPECIAL REPORT

Report by Andrew Richardson

enjoyed two further top 40 hits. Not that they'll neglect their biggest hits at the flower show.

"We may play a few songs from the new album, Let's Hear It For The Dogs. But we won't miss the small number of hits we've had. You know, playing live is what we always wanted to do and we feel remarkably privileged that we're still doing it."

"When we started The Proclaimers in 1983 the ambition was to get off the dole. We didn't think we'd have hit records. We never really considered that. We just wanted to make a small living."

The band made waves in 1987, with their second single Letter From America, which hit number three. But they'd spent the previous 10 years fighting to be heard.

They'd grown up in Scotland and had witnessed high unemployment during the 1970s. Inspired by punk, they formed a number of bands.

"It was in the 1970s. It was when there were strikes. Unfortunately Margaret Thatcher came into power and Scotland was decimated. We ended up going back to Edinburgh in 1980. We were unemployed. There wasn't much to do, you had your dole money and you could go for a pint and smoke cigarettes. I gave up the ciggies because I just didn't have the money to afford them. It was the case of trying to make music and forming bands and then finally starting The Proclaimers. We started with a clean slate. We knew we were going to do it just the two of us."

"These days, it's all about writing great songs and playing great live. You have to do the best shows."

And that's what they're planning when they return to Shrewsbury. "For us it's only ever been about two things: it's about writing songs and being on stage. We know we have to spend time in the studio and spend time on promotion, but writing and playing live is what we love most."

Craig and Charlie are looking forward to their Shropshire show



Craig and Charlie Reid are looking forward to their Shropshire show

Group's new cookery book gives some food for thought

A NEW cookery book is giving food for thought about work carried out with people with mental health issues.

The book, called The Right Ingredients, has been put together by staff at Oswestry-based art and design community interest company Designs in Mind to celebrate all that they enjoy – and in particular the food that they take to the company's Cross Street studios to share.

Over recent years the project, which works with people with mental health issues, has produced public and private art commissions and created items for sale from its studios.

Catherine Wilks, the group's social business manager, said: "At Designs in Mind we have a tradition of bringing home made cakes and savouries into the group and delicious, unusual, healthy recipes have been made, swapped and shared by all."

"So we decided to produce a book, titled, The Right Ingredients."

"It is a recipe book yes, but much, much more."



"It tells the story of the group, celebrates the success of individuals and is a testament to the rich portfolio of art work that exists in hospitals and public buildings across Shropshire and beyond."

"The book includes favourite recipes, local buildings, places and historical events from Oswestry, inspiring drawings, prints, embroidery and unique designs."

Designs in Mind aims to provide a creative environment for individuals referred through mental health services to achieve at their own pace.

The Right Ingredients book has been supported by the Mary Hignett Bequest Fund through the Rotary Club of Oswestry.

Mary Hignett, a much-loved local writer, teacher and naturalist left a substantial six-figure sum to the Rotary Club of Oswestry to administer.

The rotary club administer it through a trust fund in her name.

Catherine said: "We feel privileged to undertake this work in memory of Mary Hignett and we are delighted that her name should be perpetuated by the fund's support of such local valuable projects."

The cook book's launch was celebrated with a cookery class led by Shropshire chef Melissa Rees from Milly's Menus.

She demonstrated food to enhance the mood.

• **Photograph** – Elin Humphreys, in-house design leader at Designs in Mind, and Alison Scott, who has contributed to the book, take a look at some of the work used in the publication

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Tryfan Jones and Owain Llew Jones from Hengoed near Oswestry



Carwyn Jones said he was delighted to see the National Eisteddfod in Powys



There was plenty of colour during the cultural festival at Meifod

Event is a success

Report by Pam Kingsley

WALES First Minister Carwyn Jones has said he is "delighted" to see the National Eisteddfod in Powys.

Mr Jones visited the festival, being held in Meifod, near Welshpool, on Monday where he spent the day meeting visitors, looking at exhibits and taking in the Welsh cultural event.

He said: "It's fantastic, good to be in Meifod. I'm delighted that the eisteddfod comes to parts of Wales that are not visited so often by big events.

"It helps to increase the profile of the language in parts of Wales where it's lost ground. In Powys it really has lost ground after the Second World War.

"It's great for the local economy as well to have all these thousands of visitors coming into the area this week."

More than 30,000 visitors flocked to the cultural festival during its opening weekend, with thousands more expected over the next five days.

Powys County Council members and officials were also delighted to welcome the visitors, which it says will help to boost the area's economy for years to come.

Councillor Arwel Jones, the authority's cabinet member for Welsh language, said: "With an estimated 150,000 visitors due to visit the county during the eisteddfod the economic impact for the local community cannot be underestimated. Independent financial research has shown that local businesses could benefit by more than £7 million with local outlets receiving most support.

"The local tourism and hospitality sector is always one of the main beneficiaries of an eisteddfod's visit.

"With so many eisteddfod visitors spending at least one day during the week exploring the area we are confident that the impact of the event will boost the economy for years to come." The Eisteddfod comes to a close on Saturday.



Wales First Minister Carwyn Jones speaks during the National Eisteddfod at Meifod



The Gorsedd of the Bards procession at the Eisteddfod



The Eisteddfod celebrated Welsh culture and history



Elwyn Williams on stage at the National Eisteddfod



Cerys Lloyd from Pembrokeshire singing on stage at the National Eisteddfod



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Struggle to attract staff to waste roles



Chris Price and Paul Cox at Kelsall House

A GROWING waste management business in Shropshire says it is struggling to recruit staff because people don't want to work in the industry.

Reconomy has been on an expansion drive recently, including the takeover of another local firm, Town & Country Waste Management, and the move to new premises.

It has increased its staff during the course of its five-year expansion, and is currently taking on 30 people – but marketing manager Richard Walker said it had struggled to find candidates.

"The modern waste management busi-

ness is driven by data, innovation and a strong commercial focus and we strongly believe an out-dated perception of "recycling" is to blame for a shortfall in applicants," said marketing manager Richard Walker.

"The truth is we are offering skilled desk jobs in a great new office environment in a thriving company with a great reputation for innovation."

The company, whose move to HMRC's former offices at Kelsall House in Stafford Park was described as the biggest office letting in Shropshire in 15 years by agents Andrew Dixon, is expected to deliver £95

million turnover this year. It launched a search for new staff following its move to the three-storey offices in May, and held recruitment days to find the right personnel.

Mr Walker added: "Moreover the company is particularly keen to encourage younger personnel, which is a particularly hard hit area from a recruitment point of view, that can grow within the business to aid its long term growth and succession planning.

"We have a strong ethos of promoting from within and want to continue this trend as we grow."

Property arm set to help build revenue

SHROPSHIRE building services company Jones & Hampton has branched out into housebuilding as it looks to grow revenue and diversify the business.

The Telford-based business, which has been running for 18 years providing services for the public sector, is dipping its toe into the private sector for the first time with the move.

It has completed two four-bedroom properties at Childs Ercall to kick off the new business, called Blue Square Property Developments, which is running alongside the core business.

"We are a regional company, and don't travel too far out of Shropshire," said director Dave Jones.

"We go within a 50-mile radius of Telford, so we have to look at growth in terms of expanding the type of work we do rather than the number of clients we have, as there's only so many contracts we can tender for. The business has grown, but because we made a conscious decision to be regional the opportunities that come our way are based on the services we provide."

The decision, he added would diversify the business and provide greater security against any shocks in its other sectors.

Jones & Hampton currently turns over around £8 million, a figure expected to rise to nearer £10 million this year, and is now expected to continue growing at 10 per cent, once new revenue streams such as the housebuilding are rolled out.

The company employs between 80 and 100 operatives at any point in time, and the workforce are not expected to be significantly effected by the new move. Some traders will be put to work on the developments – the next of which is expected to be three family homes at Roden.

Mr Jones added: "We hope to create another stream of activity for the business that could account for maybe a third or even 40 per cent of what we do.

"If we build houses, sell them, and get a return, we intend to reinvest all the profits into new land and bigger works."

Finance director Tom Robinson-Jones will be at the head of the new business.

He added: "Jones & Hampton have an abundance of experience in delivering customer care, high quality finishes and timely completions.

"This combination can be easily replicated in order to aid the success and sustainability of Blue Square Developments."



MD Dave Jones and Tom Robinson-Jones of Blue Square Property Developments

Gemma proves she is the cream of the crop

A YOUNG entrepreneur from Shropshire has seen her business highlighted to thousands of people after linking up with a national campaign.

Gemma Allies, who runs skincare startup SkinSincere from her home in Priorslee in Telford, joined the Virgin StartUp campaign through the Hadley Park-based Enterprise Hub.

She has now been hailed as the Startup Of The Week, and seen her business showcased in front of the thousands of people who are linked to the campaign.

"It was a great honour to be selected," she said.

"It has been a great platform for SkinSincere to launch from, and has helped the business reach an large audience of potentially tens of thousands of people that it couldn't have achieved alone."

"It has helped raise awareness of the brand, which as a start up is invaluable, and also generated social media interest and traffic to the site, all of which I hope will convert into loyal customers in the long term."



Gemma Allies, seen here with her beauty products

Ms Allies decided to launch the business after leaving a career in marketing in Manchester, and went through a lengthy application process to receive the backing of the

Virgin campaign, a not-for-profit company aimed at encouraging young entrepreneurs.

Although she took the decision to go into business two years ago, her plans have gathered pace since the beginning of this year, with the business plan she put together for Virgin helping her along.

Since April, she has been procuring products, which are made to order in the UK, packaging and marketing materials.

She has been networking, marketing, attending events and spreading the word about SkinSincere.

"I am really overwhelmed with the success so far," Ms Allies added.

"We had a list of pre orders from people who had tried samples, and then several requests from new people."

"I've also had people requesting pamper parties which we are offering to groups of people who have an interest in the products, being pampered and want an excuse for a get together."

Estate agent expands again with new branch

AN estate agent has opened new offices in the centre of Newport in a bid to capitalise on a housing boom around the town.

Nock Deighton's new office in High Street is now open, and office manager, Caroline Anderson, said it came at an "exciting time" for Newport. "Newport has always been a popular place to live, and the recent developments around the town are giving more people the chance to own their own home," she said.

"New homes are generally good news for the property market because fresh housing gets things moving, and we are certainly seeing that in Newport."

Ms Anderson said Newport High Street had bucked the national trend and gone from strength to strength in recent years, leading the company to base its office in the town.

"Newport is a lovely market town with excellent schools which are very popular, and enquiries for property have gone through the roof in recent months," she added. "There is a real buzz about the High Street with plenty of independent shops doing well and we are excited to be part of the community."

Nock Deighton is one of Shropshire's oldest estate agents, having formed in 1831, and has recently added offices in Cleobury Mortimer and Kidderminster to its existing bases in Telford, Bridgnorth, Ironbridge, Shrewsbury and Ludlow.

The Newport office in the former 'Cook Shop' premises at 22-24 High Street brings the total number of branches to eight, and Michael Nettleton, director, said the town was an important market for the agency.

"We have always had a presence in Newport but our team has previously been based in our Telford office," he said. "It was really a matter of waiting for the right premises to come along, and with Newport town centre enjoying something of resurgence recently it has taken a while for a shop unit to become available."

Distress on the rise among county firms

THE number of businesses in financial distress in Shropshire has soared during the second quarter of the year, according to new figures.

Latest data from corporate recovery firm Begbies Traynor shows that 1,587 businesses in the county are in "significant" distress, based on a complex series of measures established by the firm.

That reflects a 13 per cent increase on the first quarter of the year, and a rise of seven per cent in comparison to the same period in 2014.

Far fewer businesses find themselves facing a "critical" level of financial problems, but the number to have done so has also increased, with 16 businesses in the county on the cusp of serious financial trouble.

Begbies' regional managing partner John Kelly said that in many cases, problems had been caused by a race to cut prices among food and drink retailers.

In Shropshire, 24 food and drink retailers are in significant distress, four more than in the first quarter but fewer than this time last year, and 15 food and drink manufacturers are struggling.

"During the first six months of 2015 we've witnessed a real shift in approach amongst the big four supermarkets in terms of their response to the rising popularity of the German discount food retailers," said Mr Kelly.

"Only recently we learned that the Competition and Markets Authority is looking into complaints by Which? that supermarkets are using ever more complex marketing tactics to present customers with a bargain. This is clearly a response to the bargain offer presented by discount stores."

Bars and restaurants in Shropshire are also facing increasing problems, with 84 considered to be in significant distress, while the biggest jump was among telecommunications companies, where 34 per cent more are now in trouble than in the first quarter.

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Motoring



Volvo XC90 qualifies for grant

Volvo's first petrol plug-in hybrid, the XC90 T8 Twin Engine, has qualified for the UK Plug-in Car Grant (PICG) scheme from the Office of Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV).

The Swedish firm's new XC90 T8 Twin Engine is now available with an on-road price of £54,955 (including PICG).

The XC90 is the first car to be built on Volvo's first in-house designed and built platform, and powered by Volvo's

new Drive-E powertrains. With a combined output of 407hp, this seven-seat SUV emits just 49g/km of CO2, at the same time being able to go from zero to 60mph in 5.3 seconds.

Neatly

The car's platform is designed to incorporate the hybrid hardware without encroaching on interior space, with the necessary battery pack being neatly concealed within the centre console. The Drive-E powertrain in the XC90 utilises a 320hp petrol engine and 87hp electric motor.

The Plug-in Car Grant (PICG) has

been designed to encourage manufacturers to decrease the level of outputted CO2 exhaust emissions.

To achieve this, hybrid vehicles must emit less than 75g/km, a minimal travelling range of 10 miles and must reach a speed of at least 60mph.

Companies choosing the XC90 T8 Twin Engine can benefit by writing down as much as 100 per cent of the cost against their income tax liability.

Drivers who choose the XC90 T8 Momentum, for example, pay as little as £99.83 BIK a month (40 per cent tax payer) whilst enjoying a full 7-seat SUV with 407hp.

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Motoring

Celebrating 50 years

In 1965 Toyota made a modest entry into the UK car market, its arrival marked by a small four-car stand at that year's motor show. Today, Toyota has not only sold almost three million vehicles in Britain, it builds them here, too.

Although a great deal has changed, there remains a constant theme in Toyota's business that is as true today as it was 50 years ago, as Paul Van der Burgh, Toyota (GB) President and Managing Director, explained: "Toyota entered the UK market with the aim of providing better cars and better service, even if those weren't the words used back then. But ever since, Toyota has stood out for giving the customer something better – better equipment, better reliability and better service."

Pride and Clark was the original UK importer and distributor, a South London family firm that launched its enterprise after John Pride travelled to the Far East to see the developing Japanese car industry for himself. His faith in Toyota was shared by a handful of car retailers who set up the first Toyota showrooms, at first with just a single model line – Corona – to offer their customers.

Business prospered as the range of vehicles grew, not least with introduction of the first Corolla in 1966. The name Toyota (GB) Ltd was adopted in 1967 and by 1980 200,000 cars had been sold, securing its position as a leading player in Britain's car market. Nine years later Toyota announced the UK as the location for a European manufacturing centre. Toyota Manufacturing UK's Burnaston car plant in Derbyshire and Deeside engine factory in North Wales



came on stream in 1992 and have benefited from more than £2 billion investment in technology, skills and jobs. They continue to provide valuable opportunities for more than 200 supplier businesses.

TMUK also has the distinction of being the Toyota's first hybrid vehicle manufacturing centre in Europe, building Auris Hybrid models since 2010.

Tony Walker, TMUK deputy managing director, said: "All the work we have done so far has created a solid foundation for the future. The next exciting step for TMUK is to develop our skills ready for the adoption of TNGA – Toyota New Global Architecture. It's not just about new products, it's a new approach to making them. We have plenty

of work ahead of us to be ready to adopt the new way of working by the end of the decade, but I strongly believe that, as the last 25 years have shown, we will be ready."

In its 50th year in the UK, Toyota has already launched new Avensis and Auris models – all built at Burnaston.

Later this year it will also begin marketing the first of its Mirai hydrogen fuel cell vehicles here, opening a new chapter in zero emissions driving with technology the drivers of those first Corona saloons could never have imagined.

While Toyota's focus is on the future and the development of ever-better cars, it honours the achievements of some its influential models of the past in a heritage fleet, main-

tained by Toyota (GB). The classic line-up includes an original Corona saloon, the famous Corolla AE86 that helped inspire today's GT86 coupe, a first-generation RAV4 and one of the earliest British-built models, a 1992-vintage Carina E.

Toyota is a big player in British car manufacturing. All the Avensis models and all the Auris hatchbacks and wagons are made at the Burnaston plant in Derbyshire.

A detailed search for the oldest UK-registered Toyota has come up with two original Corona saloons, still on the road and nearing 50 years old.

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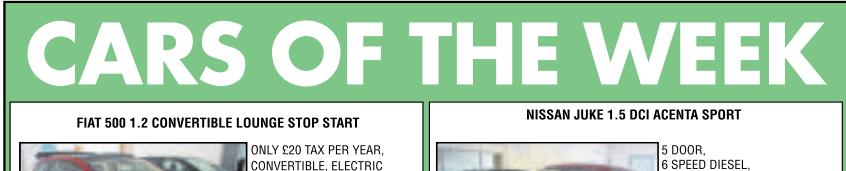
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How they stand

Shrewsbury & District Evening Cricket League

Division One

	P	W	L	P
Wem...	9	7	1	136
Grasshoppers...	9	7	1	134
Condover...	9	4	5	88
Bomere Heath...	8	3	4	88
Count...	8	2	6	88
Shelton...	9	1	7	54

Division Two

	P	W	L	P
Frankton...	9	6	2	132
Rough & Tblers...	10	6	4	116
Knockin & Kinn...	9	5	4	100
Bedlins...	8	5	3	98
Welshpool...	10	3	6	98
Portesbury...	10	2	8	75

Division Three

	P	W	L	P
Whittington...	8	8	0	137
Portesbury...	3	3	3	88
Alberbury...	5	2	2	94
Pres...	6	2	4	41
Iscoyd & F B...	8	0	6	54

Division Four

	P	W	L	P
Acton Reynold...	9	6	1	116
Beacon...	9	5	4	105
Old P O (Shrews)...	7	5	2	94
Allscott...	9	4	3	93
Bomere Heath...	9	3	6	80
Wem...	9	1	6	41

Division Five

	P	W	L	P
Wellington...	9	8	1	129
Wroxeter Grove...	9	6	3	120
Ellesmere...	8	7	1	117
RAF Shawbury...	9	5	3	114
Frankton...	9	3	6	97
Calverhall...	9	3	6	93
Cae Glas...	9	1	8	45
Beacon...	8	1	7	42
Shrewsbury R C...	8	1	6	41

Birmingham & District Premier Cricket League

First Teams

Previews Division

	P	W	L	T	A	P
Shrewsbury...	15	9	1	5	0	234
Berkswell...	9	8	5	1	0	221
Umberslade...	15	8	3	3	0	200
Kidderminster...	15	7	2	5	0	198
Knowle & D...	15	7	1	6	0	194
Walsall...	15	6	1	6	0	193
Barnet Green...	15	5	2	6	0	159
Kenilworth W...	15	5	0	8	0	142
Dorridge...	15	4	2	8	0	136
W'ton...	15	3	1	10	0	108
Brockhampton...	15	2	1	11	0	107

Division One

	P	W	D	L	T	A	P
Walsall...	10	3	0	2	2	242	
Leam'ton Spa...	15	9	3	3	0	228	
Smethwick...	15	7	3	3	0	224	
Tamworth...	15	7	4	3	0	212	
Shifnal...	15	7	3	3	0	212	
Coventry/NW...	15	6	3	5	0	208	
O Elizabethans...	15	5	4	6	0	170	
Halesowen...	15	4	4	6	0	170	
Wombourne...	15	4	3	6	0	169	
Brewdow...	15	3	3	9	0	121	
Stourbridge...	15	2	4	8	0	111	
Easthor...	15	1	3	10	0	107	

Division Two

	P	W	D	L	T	A	P
Walsall...	15	10	0	3	0	224	
Sutton C'ield...	15	9	3	2	0	228	
Penkridge...	15	9	1	4	0	222	
Tamworth...	15	7	4	3	0	212	
Shifnal...	15	7	3	5	0	212	
Coventry/NW...	15	6	3	5	0	208	
O Elizabethans...	15	5	4	6	0	170	
Halesowen...	15	4	4	6	0	170	
Wombourne...	15	4	3	6	0	169	
Brewdow...	15	3	3	8	0	121	
Stourbridge...	15	2	4	8	0	111	
Easthor...	15	1	3	10	0	107	

Division Three

	P	W	D	L	T	A	P
Walsall...	15	10	0	3	0	224	
Sutton C'ield...	15	9	3	2	0	228	
Penkridge...	15	9	1	4	0	222	
Tamworth...	15	7	4	3	0	212	
Shifnal...	15	7	3	5	0	212	
Coventry/NW...	15	6	3	5	0	208	
O Elizabethans...	15	5	4	6	0	170	
Halesowen...	15	4	4	6	0	170	
Wombourne...	15	4	3	6	0	169	
Brewdow...	15	3	3	8	0	121	
Stourbridge...	15	2	4	8	0	111	
Easthor...	15	1	3	10	0	107	

Division Four

	P	W	D	L	T	A	P
Walsall...	15	10	0	3	0	224	
Sutton C'ield...	15	9	3	2	0	228	
Penkridge...	15	9	1	4	0	222	
Tamworth...	15	7	4	3	0	212	
Shifnal...	15	7	3	5	0	212	
Coventry/NW...	15	6	3	5	0	208	
O Elizabethans...	15	5	4	6	0	170	
Halesowen...	15	4	4	6	0	170	
Wombourne...	15	4	3	6	0	169	
Brewdow...	15	3	3	8	0	121	
Stourbridge...	15	2	4	8	0	111	
Easthor...	15	1	3	10	0	107	

Division Five

	P	W	D	L	T	A	P
Walsall...	15	10	0	3	0	224	
Sutton C'ield...	15	9	3	2	0	228	
Penkridge...	15	9	1	4	0	222	
Tamworth...	15	7	4	3	0	212	
Shifnal...	15	7	3	5	0	212	
Coventry/NW...	15	6	3	5	0	208	
O Elizabethans...	15	5	4	6	0	170	
Halesowen...	15	4	4	6	0	170	
Wombourne...	15	4	3	6	0	169	
Brewdow...	15	3	3	8	0	121	
Stourbridge...	15	2	4	8	0	111	
Easthor...	15	1	3	10	0	107	

Oswestry & District Bowling League

Division 1

	P	W	L	D	Ag	P
Johnstown A...	16	11	4	1	203	98
Ceirngog Valley A...	16	10	5	1	196	97
Llangollen A...	16	9	6	1	233	94
Ruabon A...	16	11	5	0	157	93
Criftons A...	16	10	6	0	125	91
Church A...	16	8	8	0	153	82
Overton A...	16	7	9	0	147	79
Weston Rhyn A...	16	9	7	0	145	78
Elgar A...	16	8	8	0	153	78
Blackpool A...	16	9	7	0	145	78
Clwyd A...	16	8	8	0	145	78
Churchill A...	16	9	7	0	145	78
Criftons B...	16	8	8	0	145	78
Church A...	16	9	7	0	145	78
Overton A...	16	8	8	0	145	78
Weston Rhyn B...	16	9	7	0	145	78
Elgar B...	16	8	8	0	145	78
Blackpool B...	16	9	7	0	145	78
Clwyd B...	16	8	8	0	145	78
Churchill B...	16	9	7	0	145	78
Criftons C...	16	8	8	0	145	78
Church A...	16	9	7	0	145	78
Overton A...	16	8	8	0	145	78
Weston Rhyn C...	16	9	7	0	145	78
Elgar C...	16	8	8	0	145	78
Blackpool C...	16	9	7	0	145	78
Clwyd C...	16	8	8	0	145	78
Churchill C...	16	9	7	0	145	78
Criftons D...	16	8	8	0	145	78
Church A...	16	9	7	0	145	78
Overton A...	16					

Williams hat-trick gives win to Morda

MORDA UNITED continued last season's success with a 3-2 victory over Llanidloes Town to keep their flag flying in the Graham Edwards Trophy.

After conceding a goal after just 12 seconds to their old-boy Matt Evans, who wore Morda colours last season, the Weston Road men marked their return to the competition in style with a hat-trick by last season's top scorer, Emlyn Williams.

Despite conceding a late goal to Bryn Thomas, they remained in front to secure a place in tonight's semi-final (Thursday) when they meet the Oak Oswestry.

The Oak made a scintillating start to the competition with a 7-0 victory against FC Oswestry Town Reserves.

Jamie Foulkes, Dave Hartshorn and Chris Bishop all scored twice for the Oak, with Matty Jones also finding the net.

On Saturday Morda have an attractive friendly when they entertain Welshpool Town with kick-off at Weston Road set for 3pm.

Gobowen Celtic started the semi-finals of the Graham Edwards Trophy with a 2-0 passage against Kinnerley thanks to goals from George Morris and Carl Harris. They met St Martins this week.

Former Wrexham winger Adrian Cieslewicz, now with The New Saints, will present the trophy after Sunday's final at Gobowen Playing Fields.

On the same day is the junior tournament which sees Oswestry Boys and Girls Club play Chirk in the first semi-final at 1pm followed by Gobowen Youth against Llanynech Juniors (1.50pm).

Youngsters will be wiser reckons boss

ELLESMORE RANGERS' young squad, an impressive fourth in the West Midlands League premier division last season, will be "a little bit older and wiser" this time reckons director of football Alan Davies.

Manager Dan Stevens will reinforce his first team squad from the club's talented under-18 side which reached the first round proper of the FA Youth Cup last season before losing narrowly to Port Vale.

Ryan Jones ended the campaign in good scoring form and will look to pick up where he left off when Rangers, who have signed Jamie Dean – also a useful cricketer for Bomer Heath – open their new season at home to Bewdley on Saturday.

Davies said: "We hope to be up there again to try and improve on last year when we did very well."

"The young lads are now a little bit older and wiser, so we're looking forward to it. The squad is pretty much the same as it was with one or two of the under-18s also coming in."

Matthews on the mark for Llanrhaeadr

HOT-SHOT Iwan Matthews notched a hat-trick as Spa Mid Wales League side Llanrhaeadr completed their pre-season with a 5-0 friendly victory over Coedpoeth.

Cymru Alliance new boys LLA-NAIR UNITED lost 1-0 at Llanidloes Town in the Richard Evans Memorial Trophy, a free-kick from new signing Elliot Jones decisive.

ST MARTINS secured a 6-3 pre-season win at Chirk AAA, Jamie Hands getting the first before Scott Graham and Sam Thomas made it 3-0 at the interval.

Jack Hughes got the fourth nine minutes after the break, before Lewis Penrose and Steve Birch reduced the arrears to 4-2. A Tom Ewatt own goal made it 5-2; substitute Mike Nash pulled one back but Sam Harris had the last word.

Power boosts his Legends title chase

GUILSFIELD'S Ben Power passed his screen test after moving back up to second in the National Legends Car racing championship following a successful televised meeting at Donington Park.

The 25-year-old Guttercrest Racing driver continued his consistent form to finish third overall on the first day and first overall on day two, with the races to be shown on Motors TV on Wednesday, August 26.

Power won the first race, but was demoted to second by a time penalty. He then finished sixth in race two and seventh in the final after a major incident sent him across the grass.

On day two, he battled a slippery track to finish fifth in race one, from a start position of 18th. He

won a very wet second race by a full five seconds, and in the final, came through to finish third, again from a start position of 18th.

"If the first day was pretty good, the second was very good," said Power. "We are now back up into second place, and plenty of races still to go – we have a realistic chance of the title."

The series is currently led by veteran former world champion John Mickel, with James Holman third. The Legends series moves to Silverstone for its next two-day meeting on August 9.

Power made his debut in the series in 2009, finishing eighth overall and second in the rookie table, having switched to the circuits from rallycross.

In Legends racing he has climbed from a 10th-place finish in the 2010 championship to sixth in 2011, fourth in 2012, third in 2013 and second in 2014.

The formula began on the US oval tracks and the cars are 5/8-scale replicas of classic US models. Guttercrest Racing runs a Ford Coupe 1934 replica, with a 1,250cc Yamaha motorcycle engine.

Guttercrest Racing is backed by the family-owned aluminium guttering company Guttercrest, based in Oswestry.

The team has further support from award-winning Cardiff-based PR and communications consultancy Welch Media.

Fiesta time as pair triumph in Finland

RALLYING

RALLY star Tom Cave and Oswestry-based co-driver Craig Parry took their first Drive DMACK Fiesta Trophy victory of the season after blitzing the opposition at Rally Finland.

Welshman Cave and Parry sealed the win after taking nine stage victories across the weekend to move into second place in the championship battle.

The pair took a huge step towards securing the biggest prize in world rallying at one of the highlights of the FIA World Rally Championship. The overall series winners get a full seven-round season of WRC2 rallying in a Fiesta.

The super-fast, rollercoaster roads at Jyväskylä are revered by drivers and Cave mastered the gravel stages to jump up the standings.

After finishing runner-up in Poland four weeks ago, the 23-year-old immediately settled into a leading place – posting fastest time on the first main test through Pihlajakoski on Friday morning. At the wheel of identical Ford Fiesta R2 rally cars equipped with DMACK tyres, Cave battled throughout the day with Norwegian Marius Aasen and local star Max Vatanen.

Dominant

He set six fastest times from the nine flat-out stages around Jämsä on Friday. However it was the dominant drive through the legendary Ouninpohja stage, the longest of the rally at 34.39km, which blitzed the opposition. Cave was fastest by nearly 10 seconds to help him hold an overnight lead of 21.7 seconds at the end of Friday.

Mastering the stomach-churning jumps and blind crests, Cave and Parry extended the gap to second-placed Aasen to over a minute after the Norwegian dropped time with a puncture. Their confidence, and experience of this event – the fastest-ever WRC rally – shone through.

They breezed through the final two high-speed tests and cruised home with a 50-second gap to runner-up Aasen.

Cave's victory sets him up nicely for the next round in Germany, where he won last year.

"It's an amazing feeling to win here in Finland; it's such a special rally with huge tradition," he said.

"Finland has been a pleasure to drive again and the experience I gained in last year's Trophy has really shown I think. I couldn't wait to return and compete here, it really is more than a rally."

"To achieve such a positive result and strengthen our championship position was the main goal and it feels great to have managed that. We look forward to Germany and the opportunity to advance."



Tom Cave, right, and co-driver Craig Parry celebrate their dominant rally victory in Finland



Ground control to major Tom – Cave and Parry in the air on one of the classic gravel stages

Stalemate for Saints in home friendly

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

With the game beginning to open up, home striker Greg Draper volleyed over from just inside the box while at the other end Donnelly then broke clear only to see his powerful effort palmed out by TNS captain Harrison.

The Saints almost snatched it late on, but Draper smashed his shot over from six yards out after some neat build-up play down the left.

Despite a late fightback which saw goals from Adrian Cieslewicz and Scott Quigley, TNS slipped to a 3-2 friendly defeat at Cymru Alliance side Caernarfon Town the day before.

A much-changed side had found themselves three goals down, with former Llanidloes Town forward Jamie Breece putting the Canaries ahead after only three minutes from a tight angle.

Quigley and Alex Darlington both shot wide for the visitors, before Jamie McDaid doubled the lead for the home side with a deflected strike.

A third goal came soon after the break when defender James Jones found the back of his own net after mishitting a back-pass towards keeper Andy Wycherley.

Although TNS were dominating possession, the Caernarfon defence held firm as both Darlington and Quigley shot wide.

Ryan Kershaw then struck the post as the Welsh Premier champions continued to dominate, and they finally found a way through with 10 minutes to play as Cieslewicz smashed an unstoppable shot into the net from just outside the box.

Quigley then headed in a second goal in the final minute of the game, but his effort proved too late with not enough time remaining for TNS to find a leveller.

Promotion hopefuls battling for places

THE race for the two promotion spots is hotting up in division two of the Oswestry and District Bowling League.

WESTON RHYN consolidated second spot with a 7-3 (147-109) victory at bottom club ELLESMERE A after trailing 3-1. They swept the back four with Andy Riley winning 21-5.

LLANRHAEDR A swept aside CRIFTINS C 10-0 (168-127) to go third, Neil Jones winning 21-11.

CRIFTINS B are fourth after an 8-2 (164-122) home win over close rivals ELLESMERE B, Elliot莫chan leading the way 21-5.

Leaders JOHNSTOWN B marched on at the top with a 9-1 (162-96) home romp against Llangollen A.

Closest match of the night saw CHURCH B locked 5-5 with YE OLDE CROFT A after sharing the shots 135-135.

LLANYMYNECH A suffered a slender 6-4 (18 shots) loss at GEORGE, Henry Pugh winning to 12 while John Hughes replied 21-8.

WHITTINGTON A are pushing for safety in division one with a 7-3 (141-113) home victory over Chirk A, Julian Turner a 21-1 winner.

CRIFTINS A lost ground on the leaders after an 8-2 (158-133) reverse at new leaders Ceirioq Valley A, Tom Griffiths (21-13) their best.

CHURCH A lost 6-4 at Corwen A, conceding the aggregate by seven (140-133). Ruabon A were 8-2 (146-123) home winners against Overton A to go second.

August 11 fixtures: Dinas A v Church A; Llangollen A v Corwen A; Cynwyd A v Whitington A; Johnstown A v Corwen A; Criftins A v Ruabon A; Overton A v Ceirioq Valley A.

Division Two: Llangynog A v Church B, Llanrhedr A, Weston Rhyn A; Overton A v Old Croft A v Whitington A; Ellesmere B v Ellesmere A; Wedesday: Criftins C v George.

All change, but Coles wins through

OSWESTRY Paragon rider Neil Coles made light of a change of course to register his first win in round one of the club's series.

An A5 accident forced the club to use their reserve eight-mile Rednal layout due to increased traffic on the Queens Head-Gobowen route. And Coles won in 19 minutes 31 seconds, nearly a minute clear of nearest rival Jayson Rees-Hughes (Fibrax-Wrexham) who clocked 20:28.

New Paragon CC member Alex Loven was third in 20:46, one second ahead of teammate Andrew Davies.

Tom Shelton of Mid Shropshire Wheelers was quickest junior in 21:53. Clubmate Jade Morris was the only lady to ride, clocking 30:06.

Meanwhile, three Paragon riders took part in the SCCA 100-mile time trial, Colin Lythe finishing in four hours 46:03, Helen Tudor 5:02:24 and Ned Millington 5:59:07.

Top 10 results: 1 N Coles (OPCC) 19.31; 2 J Rees-Hughes (Fibrax) 20.28; 3 N Loven (OPCC) 20.46; 4 A Davies (OPCC) 20.47; 5 S Roberts (OPCC) 21.13; 6 A Webb (MSW) 21.35; 7 A Riley (OPCC) 21.44; 8 T Shelton (MSW) 21.53; 9 D Walsh (OPCC) 22.25; 10 R Rees (OPCC) 22.34.

Tennis team in running for promotion

OSWESTRY Tennis Club's Ladies third team completed a successful first season in the Shropshire League division 6N with a hard-earned victory in a rearranged fixture at Town Walls in Shrewsbury.

The six points gained keep their promotion hopes alive but their fate is in the hands of rivals yet to complete their fixtures.

With players unavailable, captain Linda Clark selected Carolyn Yates to partner Clare Hann as first pair and they won both rubbers in straight sets.

Playing together for the first time, Clark partnered Nicky Hughes and, although they lost both matches, crucially they took a set off the Town Walls second pair. And that was enough for a five sets to four overall win.

Weekend's cricket fixtures

Shropshire County Cricket League

Saturday

Division One: Knockin & Kim v Lilleshall; Beacon v Albrighton; Alscott v Newtown; Alberbury II v Polesbury; Fenton v Forton; Market Drayton v Tibberton.

Division Two: Church Stretton v Wellington III; Montgomery v Condover; Bishops Castle v Willey; Ellesmere v Much Wenlock; Shrewsbury III v Prees; Cae Glas v Wellington.

Division Three: Lilleshall II v Wheaton Aston; Church Aston v Wroxeter Grove III; Ludlow & S S II v Harpers; Chelmarsh v Oswestry III; Iscovid & F B II v Shifnal II; Calverhall v Convedale.

Division Four: St Georges III v Beacon III; Tysoe & Selsley v Hinkwick; Harcourt v Acton Reynald; Overton-on-Dee v Gullifield; Hodnet & Peplow v Coton Hall.

Division Five: Corvedale II v Knockin & Kim IV; Acton Reynald II v Alscott III; Much Wenlock II v Lilleshall II; Albrighton II v Bridgnorth III; Quayle v Shropshire.

Reserve Division One: Newport II v Bomers Heath II; Frankton II v Madeley II; Ludlow & S S II v Cound II; Wem II v Beacon II; Reman Services II v Quatt II; Wellington IV v St Georges II.

Reserve Division Two: Lilleshall II v Knockin & Kim II; Condover II v Wroxeter Grove III; Much Wenlock II v Alscott II; Shelton II v Alberbury II; Fenton II v Polesbury II; Welshpool II v Cae Glas II.

Reserve Division Three: Broseley II v St Georges IV; Wroxeter Grove IV v Montgomery II; Newtown II v Bishops Castle II; Shifnal IV v Iscovid & F B II; Tibberton II v Market Drayton II.

Sunday

Division Four A: Whitchurch III v Alberbury III; Madeley III v Bomers Heath III; Reman Services III v Wem III; Frankton III v Cound III; Worfield III v Wellington V; Knockin & Kim III v Newport III.

Division Five: Lilleshall IV v Polesbury III; Wem IV v Madeley IV; Ludlow & S S IV v Llanidloes II.

Reserve Division Three: Oswestry IV v Ellesmere II.

Gritty Monty hold on for losing draw

MONTGOMERY lost ground in the Shropshire Cricket League division two after finishing second-best in a draw at promotion-chasing Wile.

Wile posted 211-7, Graham Ball making 75 and Harry Thomas 43 while Aaron Ruff-cock and Andrew Barker took two wickets each. Monty closed on 135-6 with 32 apiece from Ieuan Griffiths and Andrew Barker.

High-flying MONTGOMERY II maintained the promotion push in the reserve division three with a resounding 131-run victory over Powys rivals Newtown II.

James Corfield (45) and Thomas Corfield (34) helped their side to 193-8 in 40 overs before Newtown were bundled out for 62. Keith Griffiths finished things off with 4-4.

GUILSFIELD slipped deeper into relegation danger in division four after a nine-wicket home loss to Harcourt. Alex Swallow bagged 4-7 off just 16 deliveries as the villagers folded for 110, opener Sam Griffiths making 30. Opener Darren Eason cracked an unbeaten 64 in reply.

No Fields of dreams for poor Ifton

IFTON suffered a jolt after slipping to a 12-2 defeat at Castlefields who rediscovered their form in the Flowfit Shropshire Premier Bowls League with a 72-shot success.

The St Martins side had been looking to consolidate their top-five position, with their Shrewsbury hosts inconsistent.

But the Fields sent their visitors packing despite a fine 21-11 win for Craig Griffiths over Andy Duckett.

There was just one other victory for the visitors, Geraint Williams seeing off Clay Flattley 21-18 while Adam Price lost to 19 and Leighton Roberts to 17. Castlefields' Glyn Herbert beat Brian Hayes 21-9 but the result of the night came from Callum Wright, a 21-6 victor over Keiron Cooper.

Graham wins it

A LASP-GASP strike from Dan Graham took St Martins into the final of the Graham Edwards Memorial Trophy with a dramatic 2-1 win over holders Gobowen Celtic.

The Saints led through Mike Lloyd only for Carl Harris to level with a penalty in the last minute. Graham struck in injury time.

Cound's last pair defy Frankton

FRANKTON had to settle for a winning draw against COUND at Hardwick Park, with the 15 points gained putting them joint third in the Shropshire League premier division.

Asked to bat, they posted 222-8 in 50 overs, before restricting their visitors to 189-9.

They couldn't quite finish the job, Cound's last-wicket pair holding out to claim 10 points despite Frankton bowler Stuart Lammie running through the tail with 5-34.

Scott Hale had top-scored with 51 in Frankton's knock, Thomas Welti adding 43, while Adam Wilkins finished with 3-63.

Joe Yapp's 46 spearheaded Cound's reply, Thomas

Wilkie also making 39 and Matt Jones 34, but Lamie left the visitors grateful to cling on.

Depleted FRANKTON II remain in the lower reaches of the reserve division one after suffering an emphatic 129-run beating at the home of their Cound counterparts.

Cound made the most of being put in as opener Graham Trow hit 69 in his side's total of 249 all out, Greg Lawrence making 46 while Jack Kelly impressed with the ball in taking 6-60 and Mark Lamie picked up 3-31.

Frankton, with two players short, were soon in trouble in reply despite 43 from Jason Brookes, before being dismissed for 120. Opener Jason Brookes

contributed 43 as bowler Craige Anning finished with 6-67.

ELLESMORE II kept up the promotion pressure after racking up a 117-run success over Tibberton II in the reserve division three.

An opening partnership of 135 between Jamie Birch, who went on to make 98, and Nigel Davies (53) laid the foundations for the home side's daunting 224-7 in their 40 overs.

Tibbo's reply never got started as they lost three wickets with only four runs on the board.

Naz Akhtar (49) and John Aldington (30) gave some respectability to the score before the innings petered out on 107, John Bennett taking 3-4.

Oswestry slide into the relegation zone

CRICKET by John Bridgwater

OSWESTRY were plunged into the relegation spots in the Birmingham Cricket League division one after an eight-wicket mauling at the hands of fellow strugglers Harborne.

After four defeats on the bounce, the Morda Road men needed a boost, but their line-up – missing several regulars – was no match for their hosts despite a fine century from all-rounder Warrick Fynn.

Defeat left them second from bottom, still above Shropshire rivals Wellington but now eight points adrift of Harborne.

The game started well enough for Oswestry as Fynn and Australian Michael Johnson featured in a terrific 127-run stand for the second wicket. Johnson was dismissed for 54, but Fynn went on to a superb 141 which contained 18 boundaries.

However, wickets fell at regular intervals to dent hopes of getting past the 300-mark, with Oswestry all out for 274 in the 54th over.

A break for rain meant Harborne had only 41 overs to bat, but their openers put on the first 50 in just five overs. Tom Arnold hit five sixes in his 106 off 87 balls while skipper Andrew Lloyd, so often the nemesis for Oswestry, also weighed in with a century, finishing unbeaten on 102.

Both players were dropped and Harborne raced to the target with three overs to spare. Oswestry returned with just four points.

It was a better day for OSWESTRY II who boosted their title hopes in the Birmingham League second XI North with a three-wicket win against Worfield II. Three wickets apiece from Xavier Clarke and Alex Roberts helped dismiss Worfield for 233, and skipper Josh Coleridge then hit 72 to help steer his side home, Ryan Morris making an unbeaten 38.

OSWESTRY III ran out six-wicket winners against Ludlow III in the Shropshire League division three. Ludlow had posted 214-7 in their 40 overs, Craig Massey making 68, while Adam Woodcock picked up 3-59.

Michael O'Reilly then led the way with an unbeaten 77 at the top of the order, opening partner Iwan Roberts weighing in with 58.

In the reserve division three, OSWESTRY IV picked up eight points from a losing draw at Bishop's Castle II. Jack Purkiss made 80 of Castle's 191 all out while as Nick Woodcock took four wickets. Dan Graham made 47 in reply, but the Morda Road side could only finish on 133-6.

Revenge – and a clean sweep



Wynnstay's Graham Jackson, left, and Steve Theobald with Iris Muldoon, left, and Jean Rolfe of Baschurch

REVENGE proved sweet for Wynnstay bowlers who have consistently been runners-up in their friendly matches against Baschurch Bowling Club.

"But the wins kept on coming, until we ended up snatching the lot. We were delighted to find our competitors took it in good faith when we entertained them to refreshments at the Wynnstay Hotel after the match."

"We have always come a poor

second meeting Baschurch and got quite excited when we won the first few games," said club captain Pam Bridge.

The visitors had been welcomed by Oswestry Club president Norman Edwards who admitted members had been bowled over by their own success.

Baschurch chairman Sheila Lea thanked the hosts, said it had been a great afternoon and added it was the first time she'd seen a club photograph its successful scoreboard!

Black Lion devour their opposition

BOWLS by John Bridgwater

in division five by winning 6-4 at WHITTINGTON C – taking the aggregate by just one shot (130-129).

Joan Roberts and Doreen Barnes both won to six to help keep third-placed Llan in range of the leaders, while Terri Isherwood (21-9) was the best of the replies for Whittington who continue to prop up the table.

Meanwhile, 13 proved anything but unlucky for IFTON who stormed 27 points clear at the top of division six with a 9-1 (167-85) romp at CHURCH E.

The St Martins side have now won all 13 games to put the title and promotion in their grasp, with four of their team earning single-figure successes in their latest victory.

Curtis Metcalfe and Gareth Williams both won 21-5, while Harry Teece prevailed to seven and Tanya Metcalfe to eight. Glenys Bennett notched a consolation for Church, edging her game 21-20.

In division two, LLANMYNECH A remain in the lower reaches after losing 8-2 (142-125) at CRIFTINS C, Henry Pugh providing a bright spot with a hefty 21-1 success. For the hosts, Anthony

Gillam won to six and Tony Johnson to seven.

Results, division two: Criftins C 8 (142) Llan-

mynech A 2 (125).

Division three: Johnstone D 2 (127) Black Lion B 7 (156), Whittington B 8 (163) Ceirio Valley B 2 (123), Bersham 7 (157) Chirk B 3 (115), Weston Rhyn C 4 (129) Johnstone C 6 (140), Ruabon B 1 (100) Royston A 9 (153), Plas Kynaston A 8 (154) Whittington E 2 (127).

Division four: Johnstone E 3 (136) Llangollen B 7 (156), Flexys B 7 (142) Church C 3 (135), Overton B 6 (153) Fox Lane 4 (118), Ceirio Valley C 8 (141) Llangynog C 2 (121), Llanymynech B 10 (126) Llanfyllin A 8 (87), Llanrhaeadr C 7 (148) Plas Kynaston B 3 (119).

Division five: Royston B 8 (160) Church D 2 (126), Overton C 7 (150) Corwen B 3 (126), Whittington C 4 (129) Llanrhaeadr B 6 (130), Cynwyd B 8 (148) Ye Olde Crofte B 2 (110), Llanrhaeadr D 9 (159) Weston Rhyn B 1 (118).

Division six: Criftins D 8 (161) Cynwyd C 2 (107), Church E 1 (85) Ifton 9 (167), Llangynog B 6 (140) Llanfyllin B 4 (121), Weston Rhyn D 8 (168) Llanrhaeadr E 2 (125), Llanymynech C 3 (129) Whittington D 7 (135).

Sad Knockin miss out in flurry of wickets

KNOCKIN & KINNERLEY collapsed to a 54-run defeat at Shropshire League division one leaders Albrighton after looking well-placed to gain at least a draw.

Chasing the home side's challenging 241 in 50 overs, Knockin were looking good at 144-2 before losing their last eight wickets for just 43 runs to finish well short on 187 with five overs remaining.

Put in, Albrighton had solid contributions from Iain Anderson (49) and Stu Anderson (44) to thank for their total, while Ashley Sokaloo claimed 4-55.

Knockin were going well in response, opener Edward Nicholas top-scoring on 64, with 11 fours and Nigel Wellinga weighing in with a lively 40 which featured three sixes.

But Jason Summers (4-43 off 15 overs) sparked a collapse that saw the batting fall away, leaving the visitors with eight points.

KNOCKIN & KINNERLEY II proved too hot for Condover II as they strolled to a nine-wicket success that kept them flying high at the top of the reserve division two.

Julian Gallimore pouched 5-26 from 16 overs as Condover crawled to 78-8 off 40 overs, Mike Rogers providing the resistance with 33.

Knockin made light of a modest target, getting home for the loss of just one wicket as opener Mark Blount made 34.

KNOCKIN & KINNERLEY III raced to a five-wicket win at Wellington V in division four A as they chased down the hosts' 179-6.

Gary Davies took 3-44 to restrict Wellington, before Gareth James (57no) and Michael Carpenter (44no) took them to victory.

Pace of Prees exposes the Glas jaw in heavy defeat

CAE GLAS continued their inconsistent season in the Shropshire League division two with a poor display away at Prees that saw them slump to a 92-run defeat.

A reduced overs match was further disrupted for three rain delays which broke any rhythm the Glas attack may have had.

Gareth Edgerton bowled well for his four wickets at the death, but the damage had already been done with some wayward bowling as Prees closed on 180-9. Ruch Nimantha also picked up three wickets.

The Glas reply was very much a rearguard action. All the batsmen struggled to get to grips with the Prees pace attack, finding Stephen Williams (3-21) and Chris Cathrall (4-19) in top form.

Despite their resistance, the Oswestry side slipped to 88 all out, just four balls short of forcing a losing draw they barely deserved. Ben Hipkiss rode his luck to top-score with a counter-attacking 26.

Impressed

CAE GLAS II fared a little better, but had to settle for a losing draw against Forton II in the reserve division two.

Forton posted 154-8, Phil Edgerton making 39, while Nick Chesters impressed with 5-55 off 14 overs.

Runs were hard to come by in reply, but the Glas held out for a draw on 126-6 in their 45 overs to collect nine points, with Pete Bowyer the top scorer on 19.

WELSHPOOL II slumped to a 127-run reverse against Alberbury II to remain in the lower reaches of the reserve division two.

A sparkling 70 from Matthew Whitehouse and some lusty cameos by the tail dragged Alberbury to 236, Jake Evans taking 3-51.

In reply, Pool staggered to 109 all out, with the only resistance coming at the top and bottom of the batting.

Opener Nick Davies hit 36 and No.10 Jake Evans 28 while Alex Hughes and Grant McKay both picked up four wickets for Alberbury.

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Lull before the storm for Saints

MANAGER Craig Harrison admits The New Saints face a frustrating wait before starting their Welsh Premier debut later this month.

After bowing out of the UEFA Champions League two weeks ago, the Saints now have a lull before the league gets under way at Haverfordwest on Saturday, August 22.

Harrison admitted it was difficult returning to pre-season, particularly after the excitement of his side's exploits in Europe.

"To have to wait three weeks for our first league game is tough, particularly coming off the highs of the Champions League," he said.

"It's crazy to wait so long as players are champing at the bit to get going."

"It's psychological more than physical as the players are in good shape, but it is what it is, and we just have to get on with it."

The Saints continue their build-up to the new season away to Denbigh Town on Friday night, where Harrison is again likely to mix up his side.

Belts

The Welsh Premier champions had two friendlies last weekend, losing 3-2 at Caernarfon Town and then drawing 0-0 at home to Cliftonville.

"The main thing is for those players who were not involved in the Champions League to get 90 minutes under their belts," he added.

Cliftonville was a typical pre-season friendly; there were some good things, but also some areas we can improve on."

Also poised for game time is coach and assistant boss Scott Ruscoe – he could turn out for West Midlands League premier division side Haughmond when the Saints – who often play on Fridays and Sundays – do not have a game.

Meanwhile Hungarian side Videoton, conquerors of TNS in the Champions League, needed a last-gasp leveller to finish 1-1 with Belarusian outfit Bata Borisov in the first leg of their third qualifying round tie.

Glas are looking to bounce back

CAE GLAS, whose form has been something mixed this season, bid to find some consistency when they take on WELSH-POOL at Gatacre on Saturday.

Their hopes of pushing into the top half of the table faded after a 92-run loss at rock-bottom Prees.

Welshpool will also hope to bounce back after their three-wicket home loss to Ellesmere looks to have scuppered any hope of promotion places.

Pool were held to 158-8 in their 40 overs, and the visitors got home thanks to 98 from Jonathan Mitchell, Dan Chodecki (47) and Tom Anderson (36) as Ashley Thomas bagged 4-29 off 12 overs.

MONTGOMERY will be wary of a backlash at home to runaway leaders Condrover who were hit by a first defeat of the season against Church Stretton.

Elsewhere, FRANKTON visit Madeley in the premier division, KNOCKIN & KINNERLEY host Lilleshall in division one and struggling GUILDFIELD travel to Overton in division four.

Bowls

Lion roar their way to victory – P47

Rallying

Shape of Finns to come – P46

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Oswestry don't want to be hit for six

OSWESTRY will be out to avoid an unwanted cricket six when they host Smethwick in the Birmingham League division one on Saturday (noon).

Five defeats in a row have pushed the Morda Road side into the relegation places, with last week's emphatic eight-wicket loss at fellow strugglers Harborne only adding to their woes.

Now lying second from bottom, and eight points adrift of safety, they will be desperate to avoid a sixth successive loss as they look to find the kind of form that earned their last victory away to Attock at the end of June.

However, selection problems have hit Oswestry particularly hard, with the side which travelled

CRICKET by John Bridgwater

to Harborne last weekend shorn of a number of key players.

With seven games remaining all is by no means lost, but the Morda Road side certainly need to find some kind of improved form in the coming weeks.

Points will be hard-earned on Saturday against a third-placed Smethwick side very much in the title hunt, while eyes are already turning to the following week's fixture when Oswestry face a showdown with county rivals Wellington, the one side below them in the table.

They returned with just four points from Harborne despite posting a creditable 274, dominated by 141 from Warwick Fynn and a half-century by Australian wicketkeeper Michael Johnson.

Harborne – who themselves visit Wellington on Saturday – were left with only 41 overs in reply due to a rain delay, but they put the Oswestry bowlers to the sword.

Tom Arnold plundered five sixes in his 106 off 87 balls, while skipper Andrew Lloyd also weighed in with an unbeaten 102 to see their side home with three overs left.

Fynn was the only bowler to escape the heavy punishment, finishing with 1-31 from his 11 overs.

Morris has to shoulder the burden

AN INJURY to Rhidian Morris tainted Guilsfield's creditable pre-season after the forward suffered a suspected dislocated shoulder.

Morris was taken to hospital after falling awkwardly in the first half of his side's 0-0 friendly draw with Welsh Premier side Bala Town.

But, after his shoulder was put into place by doctors, the striker was set for a swift return despite feeling a little sore.

The Guils could take plenty of positives from another disciplined and organised display against the Lakesiders, which built on other pre-season performances including a 3-2 win at Welsh Premier outfit Bangor City.

Despite losing Morris early on, the Guils regrouped and Bala struggled to find a way through despite plenty of possession.

The Mid Wales side had the best chance of the game with Jack Harris, a new recruit from Welshpool, seeing a shot cleared off the line in the second half.

New boss Danny Barton is on the lookout for a new centre-half after James O'Reilly switched to Market Drayton, but Sam Litchfield has joined from St Martins and striker Peter Rees is a new arrival from Carno.

Cymru Alliance newcomers LLAN-FAIR UNITED wrap up their pre-season when they contest the Spar Mid Wales League Summer Cup final at Penrhyncoch on Saturday. The annual encounter sees the league champions take on the league cup winners.

Spar Mid Wales fixtures, Friday, August 7: Division Two, Berriew v Bettws, Presteigne v Builth Wells. **Saturday, August 8:** Division One, Carno v Bow Street, Hay St Mary's v Waterloo Rovers, Llanidloes Town v Knighton Town, Llanrhaeadr v Machynlleth, Tywyn Bryncrug v Montgomery; Division Two, Abermule v Bont, Dyffryn Banw v Penybont, Kerry v Newbridge.

Atherton is well to the fore in Canada

MOUNTAIN bike rider Rachel Atherton took her fourth consecutive World Cup win at Mont St Anne in Canada to continue "the form of her life" and extend her lead in the downhill series.

After victory in the fifth round, Powys rider Atherton is on 1,160 points, 375 points ahead of second-placed Emeline Ragot whose season looks likely to be curtailed by injury, and 446 clear of Manon Carpenter in third.

In a dramatic women's elite final, Atherton made light of the rain with a brilliant run to lead by over two seconds at the first split. The Llanrhaeadr ace was still 1.8 seconds up at the second split, powering down the course to cross in 5:03.674, some 3.417 seconds ahead of Carpenter for her 24th World Cup win.

In the men's race, torrential rain disrupted qualification to leave plenty of big names well down the order.

Atherton's brother Gee had been second at one stage, but his time of 4:29.8 eventually left him 12th.

"At least I stayed on the bike – not something I can always say at this track," he noted.

VILLAGE CLUB QUIT LEAGUE

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

JUST days before the new season gets under way, Llansantffraid Village have dropped a bombshell by pulling out of the Spar Mid Wales League.

The village club cited a "massive loss of players" and despite the efforts of management and officials could not raise a side for the coming season.

It's a major setback for a club who wrote their name in Welsh footballing folklore when lifting the Welsh Cup in 1996 and playing in the European Cup Winners Cup that summer.

The Treflan outfit were later taken over by TNS but returned to their roots in the local leagues. After winning the Montgomeryshire League, they gained promotion to the Spar League. It is understood the village club will revert to the Montgomeryshire League next season. A statement blamed "a massive loss of players".

League secretary Phil Woosnam admitted it was disappointing news with the league starting on Friday night, while Llansantffraid themselves were scheduled to host Aberaeron on Saturday.

"I received a call from the Llansantffraid secretary informing me that they will not be able to participate," he said. "They will be regarded as a major loss. Games involving Llansantffraid will be deleted from the fixture list."

Meanwhile, BERRIEW launch this season's Spar Mid Wales League campaign with several new faces for their second division clash at home to Bettws on Friday.

Manager Dave Jones, the former Welshpool boss, has brought in a number of players in the hope of a swift return to division one.

Highly rated front runner Karl Selsaerts has joined from Llanidloes Town while Chris Carroll, Richard Davies (both Abermule) and Sam Prince (Montgomery Town) have also signed along with the Welshpool Town quartet of Zak Lewis, Jamie Dockey, Josh Gethin and Ross Harris.

Llanrhaeadr start at home to Machynlleth in division one on Saturday, while Waterloo Rovers travel to Hay St Mary's and Montgomery visit Tywyn Bryncrug.

Double bullseye for college



Ellesmere shooters, back from left, James Evans, Will Evans, Jacob Roberts, Richard Lay, Ben Williamson, Ali Austin and coach Tom Rylands. Front, Kate Williamson, Shannon Davies and Katy Leeming.

ELLESMERES COLLEGE made it a cup double at the recent British Schools Rifle Shooting Competition.

Teams of eight took part in the Arthur Clarke Schools Long Range Rifle Competition and the prestigious Ashburton Shield, which attracts more than 600 teenagers from across the UK.

The Ellesmere team, made up of boys and girls aged 14 to 19, came away with the Challenge Shield before capturing the Ashburton title, the most important award in the BSRs programme.

Team captain Richard Lay said: "This was a huge team effort and everyone shot really well, against teams with very high standards."

"We were not expecting to win the Ashburton title but to eventually win it by 11 points was a great result for the team."

Ellesmere finished top with 745 points at the National Shooting Centre in Bisley, Surrey, edging out Dollar Academy from Scotland and Belfast's Victoria College. It was only their fourth year in the Ashburton, which has been running for more than 150 years.

Shooting coach Tom Rylands said: "The Ashburton Shield amongst public schools is a massive prize. All of the students have continued to improve their standards at competitions with several members achieving representational honours."

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